

THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

County calendar
Full list of first-class cricket fixtures for 1986

A lonely illness
Schizophrenia: sufferers who slip the net

All that jazz
Music that made a star pianist's marriage

Chink in the curtain
Post Geneva, how the east is looking west

Portfolio

Yesterday's Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was won by Mrs D. Nisland of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Portfolio list, page 14; how to play, back page Information Service.

CBI seeks radical tax overhaul

An overhaul of the tax system, abolishing national insurance, stamp duty and higher income rates, and phasing out mortgage tax relief has been proposed by the Confederation of British Industry. Page 2

TV talks

The electricians' union and independent television companies are to meet at the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service today to discuss a dispute which threatens to black out Christmas programmes.

Seychelles case

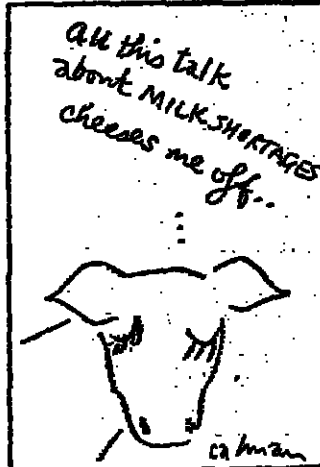
Three men were remanded in custody on charges connected with the death in London of the exiled Seychelles opposition leader Mr Gerard Horman. Page 2

BT warned

British Telecom's increased telephone charges were approved by Ofel, the watchdog body, with a warning that future rises would be carefully watched. Page 15

Jumbo inquiry

British Airways officials went to Boston, Massachusetts, to examine a Boeing 747 which lost a 12ft wing-flap and tail cone as it was landing. Page 3



Cheddar quotas

Cheddar cheese producers are turning away customers because EEC dairy quotas mean they cannot get enough milk. Page 3

Greene's quest

Graham Greene is in Nicaragua searching for a plot idea that will allow him to ditch the novel he is working on. Page 5

On This Day

Marconi's 1901 triumph in becoming the first man to send wireless signals across the Atlantic, despite claims by some scientists that it would prove impossible, was hailed by The Times in reports reproduced in 'On This Day' on page 11.

Tour threatened

Three English cricketers have been blacklisted by the United Nations, threatening the B party winter tour of Zimbabwe, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Page 23

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Serps compromise by Fowler wins over Tory critics

By Nicholas Timmins and Philip Webster

Far-reaching changes to Britain's social security system, involving gains and losses for millions of claimants, the retention of a modified version of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (Serps), and a significant boost for private and occupational pensions, were announced yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

Mr Fowler's compromise plan on Serps, which will cut its eventual cost by half, and changes in the distribution of a planned £450 million cut in housing benefit so that pensioner owner-occupiers will be less badly hit than under the original proposals, appeared last night to have won over his Conservative critics, assuring their support for his shake-up of social security.

But the Government's plans were attacked by the poverty lobby, the unions and the TUC, while the Institute of Directors said that it was "disappointed" the Government had dropped its original plan to abolish Serps.

Announcing the plans, Mr Fowler confirmed that the main changes will not take place until April 1988, almost certainly after the date of the next general election. But he told MPs: "I welcome a challenge to fight an election on these issues."

Among the key changes are: Pensions: Serps is to be retained but cut back so that its eventual cost is halved, from £25 billion to £13 billion, by the year 2033. Incentives are to be introduced to encourage the spread of occupational and personal pensions, with everybody given the right to a personal pension. Building societies, banks and unit trusts are to be allowed to provide personal pensions, with the Government hoping it will become "exceptional" for people to retire without a pension of their own. Supplementary benefits: The present system will be abolished. A system of income support with premium rates for



Mr Norman Fowler, leaving the DSS yesterday

families, single parents, pensioners and the sick and disabled will be introduced. Extra weekly payments for heating, diet and laundry will be abolished. Single payments for furniture, bedding and other household items will go into a new cash-limited Social Fund which will make discretionary loans, repayable out of weekly benefit.

Housing benefit: A £450 million cut in the £4.3 billion benefit.

Parliament and details 4
Leading article 11

Everyone, including the 3.5 million poorest recipients of housing benefit, will be expected to meet 20 per cent of their rates. Significant cuts in help with rents.

Poverty trap: A new Family Credit to replace Family Income Supplement, which the White Paper says will double to 400,000 the number of families in low-paid work who are helped. The change will end the worst of the poverty trap, but increase the numbers affected by a milder version of it.

Birth and death: The £25 maternity grant and £30 death

grant are to be abolished and replaced by means-tested help for those on low incomes through the Social Fund. Maternity payments will remain a grant but help with funeral expenses will generally be recovered from the deceased's estate.

The net effect is that extra help will go to families with children, particularly those in low-paid work, and to many sick and disabled, but many pensioners, young people and the single and childless unemployed will lose.

Under the changes, 3.8 million claimants will be worse off, including 2.2 million pensioners, with some losing more than £5 a week. Just under 2.2 million claimants will gain, with 410,000 single parents and couples with children seeing increases in benefit of £5 a week or more.

Mr Fowler rejected charges that he had climbed down over the original proposal to abolish Serps, arguing instead that the Government had listened to what people said.

Mr Michael Mecher, Labour's social services spokesman, said that the proposals still amounted to "an emasculation" of Serps, which would throw millions of the elderly into means-tested poverty. He claimed that the proposals involved cuts of £750 million for the most needy.

SHAC, the London Housing Aid Centre, said that the effect of proposals to cut help with rents for some young people in low-paid "will in work".

The Disability Alliance said that the White Paper's claim that the less well-off disabled would gain was "a con trick". Some severely disabled people would lose £30 and more in extra weekly payments at present for which the new disability premiums of £12.25 and £17.45 a week would not compensate. "The disabled you are, the more you will lose out," a spokesman said.



Miss Beverley Brightman in London yesterday: 'a shining example of the human capacity to fight and triumph'

Car crash damages for 'bravest' woman set record

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A young girl who almost died in a car crash that left her paralysed from the neck down and unable to speak won record damages of £580,547 in the High Court yesterday.

Miss Beverley Brightman, now aged 22, was "a shining example of the human capacity to fight and triumph over almost overwhelming odds", Mr Justice Tudor Price said as he made the award. But the "joy and aspirations of a young girl full of life were lost".

Her parents' devotion after the accident four years ago had brought her from the brink of death to an amazing recovery, he said, and her "proud resilience" had won her a gold medal, presented last year by Jimmy Savile, the broadcaster, for being the bravest patient at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

Miss Brightman, a clerical assistant aged 18 at the time of the accident, was described by one of her former teachers as having "the bloom and self-confidence of a young adult at peace with life".

She was a popular, athletic girl and full of life. Now she needs constant round-the-clock care and will do so for the rest of her life. She lives in a specially-adapted flat at Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, 100 yards from her parents' home.

Beverley's parents, Howard and Anna Brightman, were in court to hear the judge award the damages, which set a new

TUC set to ratify ballots cash

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Trade union leaders last night took the first step towards reversing policy on the issue of accepting government money for postal ballots when they decided to hold a special conference to draw up a new strategy.

The decision taken yesterday by the TUC's "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee, was an acknowledgement that the labour movement would not be able to sustain its opposition to the Government's labour laws in view of ballot decisions by two of its leading affiliates.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, is understood to have been pivotal in bringing about a change in attitudes of senior union officials to the sensitive issue of government funding of union ballots.

Mr Kinnock and other senior Labour Party colleagues spent 90 minutes at TUC headquarters yesterday discussing future employment policy with union leaders under the auspices of the TUC - Labour Party liaison committee. Mr Kinnock is known to favour a series of positive union rights which incorporate union members having access to secret ballots.

The electricians' and engineering workers' unions have voted by large majorities to accept state funds for ballots and Mr Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, yesterday appealed at the committee meeting to face up to those decisions.

He was supported by a 10-6 vote of members of the inner cabinet who will recommend to tomorrow's meeting of the TUC General Council that a special conference of presidents and general secretaries of affiliated unions should be held in February to discuss a change of policy.

That conference will be additional to the consultative conference that is planned to consider a possible framework.

Continued on page 2, col 6

Heseltine ploy on Westland disowned

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, confirmed in the Commons yesterday that the Cabinet had overruled Mr Michael Heseltine in his attempt to blacklist Westland helicopters if the firm concluded an agreement with Sikorsky of the United States and Fiat of Italy.

In an extraordinary Commons scene Mr Brittan, with a generally impassive Mr Heseltine sitting silent beside him, had to insist in the face of Labour ridicule that he was speaking "for the Government as a whole".

Mr Brittan more than once, and with seeming good grace, paid tribute to the efforts of Mr Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, to put together an alternative rescue package with French, German and Italian companies.

But he made plain the scepticism with which most Cabinet ministers regarded the Heseltine alternative. The European consortium did not exist and had no interest in an arrangement with Westland until a few weeks ago, he said.

He also accepted a suggestion from a Conservative backbencher that the interest expressed late in the day by the European companies, Aerospaiale, Augusta and Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blomh, could not be relied upon.

Mr Brittan said the Government had ensured that Westland had an alternative European-based offer to consider. But, as a private sector company, it was for Westland to decide how best to secure its future.

Challenged to say whether Sikorsky-Fiat's proposed 30 per cent holding might be a prelude to a full bid, Mr Brittan said there was an option to acquire up to 40 per cent but not more.

Mr Heseltine last night brushed aside questions of possible resignation over the controversy.

Geoffrey Smith, page 2

Hatton recruited me says ex-Militant

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Evidence of Mr Derek Hatton's involvement in the Trotskyist Militant Tendency was revealed last night when Granada Television broadcast an interview with a former friend of the Liverpool deputy leader who said he had recruited her to Militant.

Meanwhile, ITN's Channel Four News reported that it had found "the missing link, the conclusive proof that Militant is in fact an entryist organization called the Revolutionary Socialist League".

A draft constitution for the league was discovered among papers left to Manchester Polytechnic by a former leading British Trotskyist. The constitution gives documentary evidence that the league, the forerunner of Militant, is a revolutionary party which works by infiltration of groups such as the Labour Party.

But the biggest boost for Mr Neil Kinnock's campaign against the Liverpool Militants was delivered by last night's World in Action programme, The Trouble with Derek.

Miss Irene Buxton, who worked with Mr Hatton in Knowlsey, Merseyside, and in a local branch of the National and Local Government Officers' Association was a close friend of Mr Hatton from 1977.

She said they worked together, in secret. "He actually recruited me to the Militant organization a few years ago and I was a member for quite some time."

Asked how Mr Hatton persuaded her to join the

Rivals 'will sign pact' on Uganda

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

After a marathon session of discussions which ended after midnight, both sides in the Ugandan peace talks here said they had settled all outstanding matters and would sign a formal agreement early today.

President Moi of Kenya has been chairing the talks, which began in August following the coup which overthrew President Obote on July 27. He was smiling broadly when he emerged from the closed door talks last night, and told waiting reporters: "Good news, gentlemen, the agreement will be signed tomorrow."

He was flanked by the Ugandan head of state and chairman of the ruling military council, General Tito Okello, and the leader of the National Resistance Army, Mr Yoweri Museveni.

The agreement had been expected to be signed earlier yesterday, but final discussions appear to have taken longer than expected. A ceremonial table and chairs for the signing ceremony had been set out in the conference centre last Friday - the day first set by President Moi as a deadline.

Neither side has explained the delay, but the agreement is expected to set out a formula for sharing power in the future Uganda government.

The NRA is also understood to have agreed to dismantle the administration it has set up in the large area of Uganda which it controls.

Uganda has been urged to reach agreement by Britain and other Western powers

British TV man feared kidnapped

Beirut, (AP) A British freelance documentary producer, Mr Chris Wenner, has been missing for nearly three weeks and is feared kidnapped, a colleague reported yesterday.

Mr Wenner, aged 30, was last seen on November 29 when he left Beirut for a rendezvous in the Bekaa valley with Mr Samir Ashkar, aged 31, a Lebanese soundman for Rund Video News, a French documentary company.

He and Mr Wenner were working on a documentary for Britain's Channel 4 on the hashish trade in Lebanon.

Mr Ashkar said he and Mr Wenner had been locked up by a militia outside Beirut for 24 hours a month ago and warned off covering the story.

Missile department defended, page 6

'Terrorist chief held in Belgium'

Brussels - Belgian police, heavily criticized for failing to track down a mysterious terrorist gang, yesterday arrested a man suspected to be the gang's ringleader and three of his accomplices (Richard Owen writes).

Pierre Carrette and three other alleged members of the CCC (or Fighting Communist cells) were arrested in Namur, in possession of heavy weapons, police said.

Mr Carrette is a noted left-wing activist associated with the French terrorist group, Action Directe. The CCC has caused nearly 30 explosions since October last year in Belgium at banks, companies and No installations, usually giving warnings and leaving leaflets of a vaguely Marxist and anarchist nature.

London gambit outbids world for chess rematch

By Raymond Keene

The British Chess Federation, backed by the Greater London Council, has bid 8 million Swiss francs (£600,000) against Leningrad's one million Swiss francs to bring to London the revenge match between the world champion, Gary Kasparov, and the man whose title he took last month, Anatoly Karpov.

Fide, the world chess federation, has ruled that the match must start on February 10. Only two of the 124 Fide member nations submitted prize fund bids; the two scaled envelopes were opened yesterday at the federation's headquarters in Lucerne, Switzerland.

The fact that England has joined the Soviet Union by making a bid reflects its growing status in world chess. In the

1984 Chess Olympics England captured second place, to the Russians, and won four individual gold medals. The English team is recognized as the most rapidly improving in the world.

London must have an outstanding chance of staging the match, since the British Chess Federation has offered almost double the Soviet prize money. And a new Fide rule prohibits any federation from holding two consecutive matches. Both of the last two were held in Moscow.

It is, however, likely that the British will suggest, partly as a gesture towards détente, that the match be split, with 12 games in London and 12 in Leningrad. The final decision will be made by Mr Florencio Campomanes, the Filipino president of the world chess federation, probably on January 13.

Chess is the Soviet national game and a world championship ranks there as cross between Wimbledon, the last night of the Proms and a Cup Final. The Russian team visited the London Docklands in the summer of 1984 for a challenge match against a Rest of the World team at the very moment when Soviet sportsmen and officials were boycotting the Los Angeles Olympics.

The British bid was organized by Mr Peter Pitt, chairman of the GLC arts and recreation committee and an enthusiastic chess player who keeps a portrait of Boris Spassky, the former world champion on his wall.

He is convinced that the international attraction of chess lovers and journalists to a championship match will help

to make London into a world chess capital. Experience has proved that the huge numbers of media representatives flocking to a two-month-long world title contest should more than repay Britain's investment.

Last summer the bids to hold the Kasparov-Karpov match were a million Swiss francs from Moscow and London, and 1.6 million from Marseilles. Mr Campomanes unexpectedly invited the Soviet Federation to match the French bid; and then awarded the whole match to the Russians.

The likely venue, should London be chosen, is the Grand Chamber of Hammersmith Town Hall, near the Thames. Newly refurbished, it holds 1,000 spectators, which compares roughly with the Hall of Columns and the Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow chosen for the

double-barrelled, last match between the two Soviet champions. Short out: Nigel Short, Britain's 20-year-old chess superstar, has declined an invitation to the Hastings tournament starting on December 27 amid a flurry of accusations and counter-accusations about the size of his appearance fee.

Short rejected brusquely the invitation from the tournament director, Mr Risson-Morley, describing his £250 fee as insulting and claiming that Hastings was no longer a first-class event.

He went on to call conditions in Hastings "exceptionally poor". Mr Risson-Morley retorted by saying: "This shows what a big-headed idiot Short really is." Kasparov wins, page 5
Chequered path, page 8

Purest of the pure

Glenfiddich Pure Malt Whisky is unique among malts. No other Highland Malt uses a single source of pure natural spring water throughout from distilling to bottling.

Since 1887 the waters of the Robbie Duff have ensured the consistent purity of taste for which Glenfiddich is justly famous.

Glenfiddich. The pure malt.

Single rate of income tax and relief for savers proposed in CBI report

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

A radical overhaul of Britain's tax system, abolishing national insurance, stamp duty and higher income tax rates while extending Value Added Tax to all businesses, was proposed yesterday by a working party set up by the Confederation of British Industry.

Spending, not saving, should be taxed, according to the report, which proposes a single rate of income tax and relief for all forms of saving and investment, and the phasing out of mortgage tax relief.

The working party, chaired by Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of Guinness, Keen and Nettlefolds, argues for a "financially neutral" tax regime in which no activity is specially favoured.

The working party's report argues that tax should be borne directly by individuals, rather than by companies, which should be taxed (if at all) on cash flow rather than profits. The report proposes the abolition of all higher rates of income tax, arguing that capital

should be taxed more thoroughly instead.

Although the working party argues that all savings and investment should be relieved from income tax, it also proposes the "phasing out" of mortgage tax relief, on the grounds that investment in housing confers benefits which cannot be taxed.

The CBI said that its discussion document was prepared in response to continuous criticism of the tax system by members. It is not a statement of CBI policy, but is published to launch the CBI's consultations with its members, designed to formulate a long-term tax strategy.

The report contains a programme of priorities, in which the raising of the national insurance threshold, the extension of VAT and reduction in employers' national insurance, together with measures to encourage social benefits, are at the beginning of the list.

In its pursuit of a "neutral" tax system which does not discriminate for or against particular industries, the working party calls for the abolition of car duty and stamp duty on the sale of securities.

Ex-Inla chief guilty of soldiers' murders

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Gerard Steenson, former officer in command of the outlawed Irish National Liberation Army, was convicted of the murder of two members of the security forces as one of Northern Ireland's longest informal trials came to an end yesterday.

Steenson, aged 28, from West Belfast, was one of four men found guilty on the word of an informer described by the trial judge as a "credible witness" who had been "cool, composed and courteous" as he gave evidence against 27 men accused of alleged terrorist offences.

Mr Justice Carswell, giving judgement at the end of a 100-day trial at Belfast Crown Court, in which Harry Kirkpatrick was the main Crown witness, said the informer had been a self-confessed perpetrator of many terrorist crimes.

Kirkpatrick, aged 28, a former second in command of Inla, is serving five life sentences for the murder of five members of the security forces along with jail terms for 72

Cash boost for defence research

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Government spending on research for defence, industry and the advancement of science will rise from £4,240 million this year to £4,592 million by 1987-88. The proportion spent on defence will increase from 51 per cent to 55 per cent, and civil research will decline accordingly.

The fall in the share of civil science will come primarily from a drop in the amount of research commissioned by Government departments. The intention is to keep the proportion spent on the advancement of science broadly constant at around 17 per cent, including money for the research councils and universities.

The figures published in a government report yesterday, are compared with other countries. An introductory analysis of trends suggests that although spending in the UK is on a slight decline, compared with a seven per cent a year increase in Japan and four per cent in the United States, the amount allocated by the Government is still comparable, in the range of 2.1 per cent to 2.7 per cent of Gross Domestic Product, to other industrial countries.

Baby death case couple cleared

A young mother and her boyfriend, who were accused of killing her baby son while she turned a blind eye, were yesterday both cleared of all charges against them.

On the direction of Judge Prest, QC, a jury at Manchester Crown Court acquitted William Gardner, a lorry driver, aged 36, of the manslaughter of Daniel Pickles, aged 17 months, and of assaulting him. Margaret Pickles, aged 23, was cleared of neglecting her son at their home in Upper Lloyds Street, Moss Side, Manchester.

Daniel died from a brain haemorrhage after collapsing at home. He had bruising to the face and body.

Mr Gardner told doctors and the police that he found Daniel in his cot vomiting. He had shaken him slightly to clear his mouth.

The judge said the medical evidence showed that Daniel's death could have been the result of a hidden weakness to his brain. "There is a possibility it might have been due to natural causes."

Daniel was a healthy, active child before being taken into hospital. There was no evidence to show Mr Gardner had caused any of his bruises.

Directing the jury to clear Mrs Pickles at the end of the prosecution evidence, the judge said: "It is clear she was a careful, loving mother."

Afterwards, Mr Gardner said: "The last 18 months since Daniel's death have been such a torment and we are just looking forward to a good Christmas. Margaret is expecting our own baby in March and we plan to marry when we can and just live a normal life."

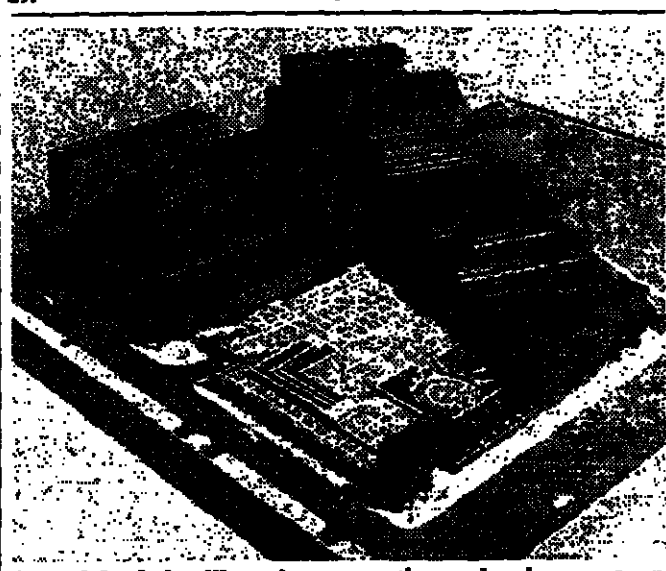
Seychelles 'conspiracy' charges

By Our Crime Reporter

Two security consultants and a British Telecom engineer were yesterday remanded by a London court after being charged with conspiring to pervert the course of justice by detecting the murder of Mr Gerard Hoarau, the Seychelles political exile.

David Richards, aged 43, a British Telecom engineer from New Moston, Manchester, was remanded on unconditional bail for a week. William Underwood, aged 56, of Walpole Road, Twickenham, west London, and David Coghlan, aged 44, of Prestwick, Manchester, were both remanded in custody for a week at Horseferry Road magistrates court.

Mr Hoarau, aged 34, was shot outside his home in Edgware, north London, on November 29.



A model of the library's two sections, showing an open plaza at the corner of Euston Road and Ossulston Street.

Library's second stage gets £61m go-ahead

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Mr Lucie's announcement received a mixed reception, as museums and galleries had been expecting him to announce his department's grants for next year.

But the Office of Arts and Libraries is still embroiled in difficult discussions between museums and galleries and the Treasury over a new method of treating institutions' finances which would allow them to raise more private income.

The office did reveal, however, that it is to give nearly £2.75 million to the Greater Manchester Museum of Science and Industry, to compensate for the loss of grants



A photograph of Royal Marines parachutists on their way to equal a world record with a "stack" of 23 which won a second prize in the Royal Navy Peregrine Trophy for Petty Officer John Farrow.

Fewer patients in mental hospitals

By Gregory Neale

The number of people staying in NHS mental hospitals dropped by more than a quarter during the past decade, according to government statistics released yesterday.

A government spokesman said that the fall reflected the increase in community care for mental health patients, the development of new forms of treatment which made for quicker discharges, and the general policy of reducing the number of beds in long-stay hospitals.

But the Government was later criticized by the mental health organization Mind as being "disingenuous and complacent" over the figures. Mind said the Government should ensure that its commitment to community care was matched by more resources.

The figures released by the Department of Health and Social Security show that there were 66,100 people in mental hospitals and 38,400 in mental handicap hospitals and units in England at the end of last year, a fall of 26.1 per cent. A drop in numbers of people aged under 65 accounted for most of the fall.

The increase in short-term care was shown by the fact that last year almost nine out of 10 discharges from mental handicap hospitals and just over 60 per cent of discharges for mental illness patients were for people who had been in hospital less than a month.

Admissions to hospital for the mentally ill or handicapped rose rapidly over the decade 1974 to 1984: 12.5 per cent for the mentally ill and 189 per cent for the mentally handicapped. Discharges during the same period rose by 11 per cent and 176 per cent respectively.

Princess in front line of drugs war

The Princess of Wales went to the front line of the battle against the drug smugglers yesterday and looked on fascinated as Oscar, a springer spaniel, aged two, went through his paces in a custom warehouse at Heathrow Airport.

He managed to select a carefully hidden suitcase containing heroin from the hundreds of packages, bales and bags stacked in the British Airways import area.

Oscar, who has detected drugs valued at £100,000 at the airport since last March, got so excited by his find that he refused to let go of the case, and it took two customs officers several minutes to extricate him.

The dog display was the most dramatic part of the Princess's morning at Heathrow, which she spent being briefed on the problem of detecting drugs among the tens of millions of packages, bales and bags passing through the airport every year.

Oscar's handler, Mr Robert Gray, a Customs officer, said: "Oscar behaved very well and we are very proud of him. We always like to reward him with a game like a battle with a suitcase if he makes a find."

"They are not machines and only work as long as they are interested."

Forces' spares system in review to cut waste

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Ministry of Defence is reviewing its £5,000 million stores support system for the Armed Forces in a new attempt to cut out waste and inefficiency.

Sir Clive Whitmore, permanent under secretary at the ministry, told the Commons public accounts committee last night that numerical targets "would be introduced next year in a bid to reduce spares held for the Army, Navy and RAF".

There are more than 2.5 million inventory items held to service the Armed Forces, but the Commons committee disclosed in a report last year that there was widespread overstocking.

Sir Clive told the committee that the ministry had resisted introducing numerical targets because of the substantial difficulties in identifying realistic targets and measuring their achievement.

"But we have concluded that such is the pressure on the department to improve the use of resources, we should introduce the numerical targets on a trial basis next year."

The committee was told that in a disposal exercise involving spare parts for RAF aircraft, about 38,000 lines which may be got rid of, with a saving of £18 million, had been identified so far.

Land Rover in drive for US sales

By Our Motoring Correspondent

Jaguar's remarkable successes in the United States have persuaded another of its former British Leyland stable mates to take the plunge into the world's biggest automotive market.

Land Rover announced yesterday that it will begin shipping a new version of its luxury range across the Atlantic late next year.

Austin Rover revealed similar plans last week with its new Sterling executive car spearheading a return to a market it left five years ago in some disarray.

Land Rover pulled out even earlier, in 1970, when its workforce Land Rover models ran into difficulties with tough exhaust emission standards.

But the return has been preceded by the most extensive market research in the company's history. As a result, the top-of-the-range Vogue has been re-engineered to meet the special needs of American luxury vehicle purchasers.

A British version of the Range Rover Vogue, with fuel injection and a West German four-speed automatic transmission, was introduced recently.

The company hopes to sell 4,000 a year, making the US bigger than its home market of 3,500 vehicles a year. It already sells in 80 overseas markets.

A road test of the new Vogue will appear in the motoring column on Friday.

Bradford mayor's home stoned

Windows at the home of the Asian Lord Mayor of Bradford, have been smashed and he believes it is a result of the decision to pay off Mr Ray Honeyford, the race-dispute headmaster.

On Saturday it was announced that Mr Honeyford had accepted a £162,000 offer to retire early from Drummond Middle School, Bradford.

Early next morning two large stones were thrown through windows at the rear of the home of Mr Muhammad Ajeef. A smaller stone was also thrown at the house while a policeman was inside inspecting the damage.

The windows which were broken were immediately below two bedrooms where Mr Ajeef's four children were sleeping.

Yesterday he said: "It happened at about 12.50am. I looked outside and saw no one so I called the police. They were very prompt and while a policeman was inside the house someone threw a smaller stone."

"Whenever I make a statement about race relations I receive letters, some of them threatening or abusive, but I never thought anyone would do anything like this."

On the decision of Mr Ajeef to retire early, Mr Ajeef said: "As one who has shared the spotlight with him in the production of Bradford's long-running tragedy, I must say I am deeply relieved at his imminent departure."

Liverpool councillors renew court cash appeal

By Peter Davenport

Liverpool's Labour leaders, who face the prospect of being unable to pay for lawyers to defend their High Court action against surcharge orders, yesterday renewed their appeal for funds.

It is estimated the legal costs of the case will run to more than £100,000. So far only about £12,000 has been raised, and much of that has already been used.

Without the money, the 48 councillors who have received orders of surcharge from the district auditor will have to rely on sworn affidavits submitted to the court.

The poor response to the appeal had led to speculation that the councillors, who face bankruptcy and disqualification from office as a result of the surcharge, would admit defeat and give up their action.

But yesterday the council's deputy leader, Mr Derek Harrison, told a Press conference: "There is no chance whatsoever of this council throwing in the towel as far as this court case is concerned. We are confident we will get the money from the labour and trade union movement."

The legal appeal by the councillors against the district auditor's decision to issue surcharge notices in respect of losses totalling £106,000, as a result of the failure to set a rate earlier this year, is to be heard on January 13.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Two questions need to be asked after Mr Leon Brittan's statement on Westland helicopters in the House of Commons yesterday. Has the Government taken the right decision? Has it reached its conclusion in the right way?

It is easier to be certain about the second question. This has been one of the most extraordinary episodes in British government in recent years. The public battle that has raged between ministers was the sort of thing that one expects with American administrations, but not with British governments. Even in the running struggles between "wet" and "dry" ministers that was such a feature of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's early years in office the anguish of the wets was always lightly coded.

Mr Brittan said yesterday that the Government had taken the decision collectively. No doubt he was right technically but that was not the spirit in which the decision was taken. There was never a proper discussion in full Cabinet. The issue was raised there last Thursday by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, and produced what some of those present regarded as a somewhat confused debate.

The Cabinet was never presented with a paper on the question. The meeting was described not as ad hoc meetings and a Cabinet committee. The decision yesterday had the flavour of a coup rather than a collective deliberation.

Late action by Heseltine

Exactly what happened has to be pieced together from a variety of sources. There were evidently at least two meetings of a small ad hoc group of ministers towards the end of the week before last. At these meetings the attempt was made to reach a final government decision to support the Sikorski deal. But this was blocked at that time.

It has already been reported that the issue was discussed by a Cabinet committee on Monday of last week. This must have been a larger group than took part in the meetings the previous week, but again there was no agreement to close on the Sikorski offer.

The essence of the decision then was that Mr Heseltine should be given until last Friday afternoon to produce the European option and then should then be given time to evaluate it. It is hard to believe that the offer when it came received such careful consideration.

The weakest part of Mr Heseltine's case was why he got into the act so late. But it is too dramatic an interpretation of events to portray the European alternative as having been conjured out of thin air by him at the eleventh hour. A specifically European option was being put together before he entered the fray.

It is true, though, that this was still being developed late in the day with the adherence of British Aerospace, and then General Electric. It was difficult to conduct the detailed evaluation on which its merits depend.

Conflict of principle

This episode has certainly been a conflict of personalities between Mr Heseltine and Mr Brittan, but it has also been the proposition supported most vigorously by the Department of Trade and Industry that competitive efficiency is the key to success in defence procurement as in other branches of industry, and that it can be secured only by allowing market forces to operate.

It is in the interest of Britain, or of other members of Nato, that there should be greater standardization of weapons and equipment throughout the alliance, and there is a danger that this will lead to total American domination of the defence industries of the West unless there is deliberate collaboration with Western Europe.

It does not follow that any European scheme ought to be preferred to a practical arrangement of European industry. That would not be in the best interests of Britain, Europe or Nato. But it is in British interests that such a scheme to improve defence industry should be preferred to a practical arrangement of European industry. That would not be in the best interests of Britain, Europe or Nato. But it is in British interests that such a scheme to improve defence industry should be preferred to a practical arrangement of European industry.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$20, Belgium 120, Canada \$20, France 120, Germany 120, Hong Kong \$20, India 120, Italy 120, Japan 120, New Zealand 120, Norway 120, Portugal 120, South Africa 120, Sweden 120, Switzerland 120, Taiwan 120, Thailand 120, USA \$20, West Germany 120, Yugoslavia 120.

Calls for aviation safety review expected after 747 wing-flap falls off

By Colin Hughes

Renewed calls for a world-wide review of aviation safety are expected after a 747 wing-flap fell off a British Airways Boeing 747 falling off over Boston.

The United States Federal Aviation Authority has grounded the aircraft and BA engineers were due to arrive in Boston last night to join the investigation.

Although there is no immediate evidence that the maintenance was at fault, two linked points were yesterday being emphasized by agencies concerned for air safety standards.

They said increased competition caused by airline deregulation, combined with ageing aircraft spending more than 2,500 hours in the air each year, meant governments, manufacturers and operators needed to overhaul safety rules to bring them more stringently up to date.

The inboard port fore-flap which dropped off the aircraft above Boston's Logan airport on Sunday was a comparatively small part section, only about one-twentieth of the 747's total flap area. It is the last section of flap to be deployed, lying closest to the wing and fuselage.

The danger to the people on

the ground was considerably greater than to the 27 passengers and crew on board. A tail cone was also found, on landing, to have fallen off the inboard midboard engine, possibly because of vibration, a loss equivalent to losing a small section of a car exhaust pipe.

The flap, 12 feet long, bounced off the roof of a house five miles away, and landed in a car parked in the driveway. No one was hurt.

The 747 is one of the oldest in BA's fleet of 39, having entered service in 1970. The highest cause is wear and tear, but flaps can rip off if lowered too early in landing, when the aircraft is travelling too fast for their use. Their role is to increase lift, enabling slower flight speeds for take-off and landing.

Problems with the 747 are of particular note, because the world fleet of 620 accounts for between 60 and 70 per cent of long-haul flights.

Mr John Silver, a BA spokesman, dismissed the suggestion that tighter profit margins and older, busier aircraft lay behind the recent rise in safety incidents. "Our aircraft are maintained strictly

according to regulations and flight engineers do a final check before every flight.

"Safety is not being sacrificed on the altar of competition, either by us, or any of the other large and reputable airlines."

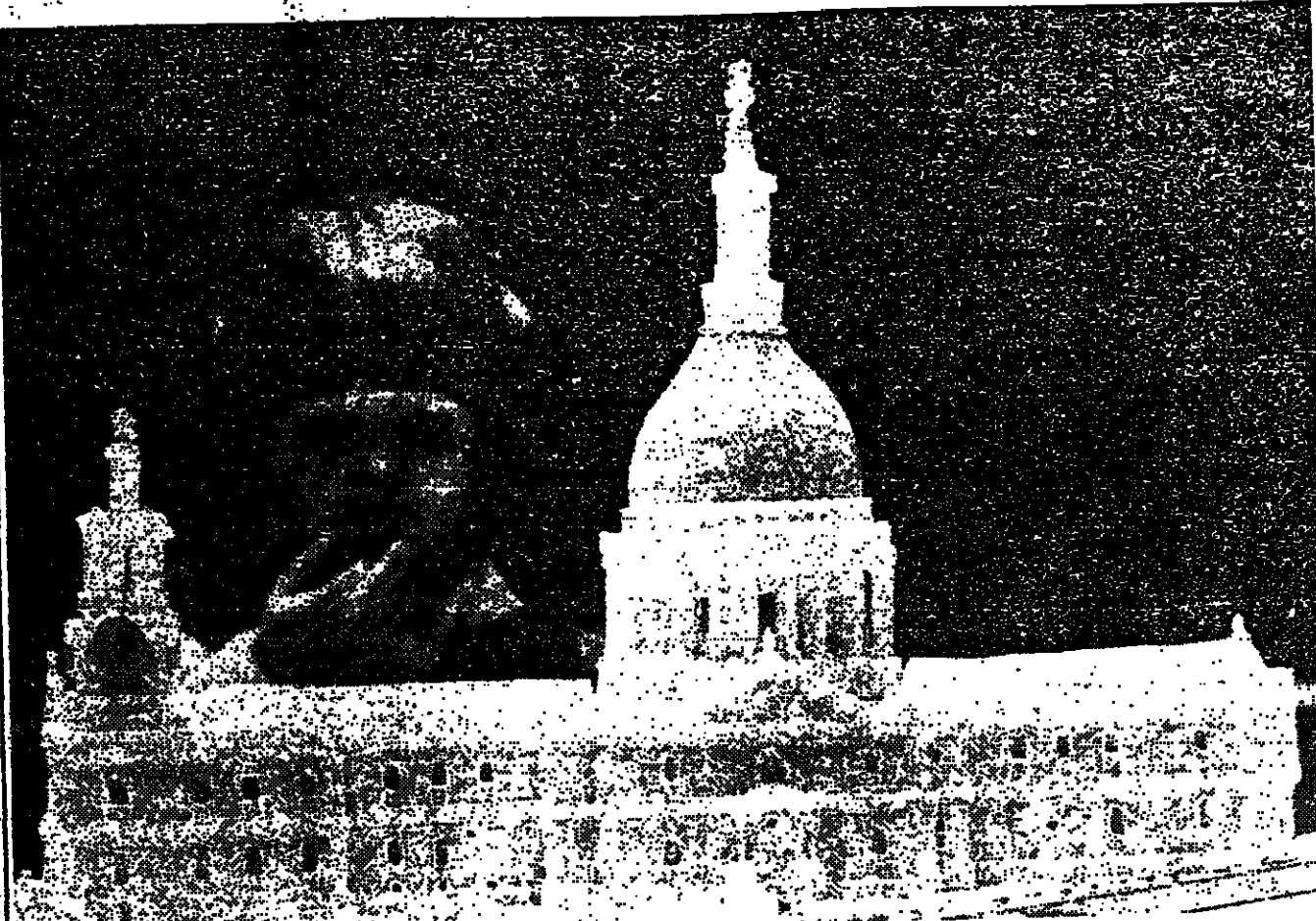
He said incidents merely came in clusters, but over the years the 747 and BA had consistently good safety records. The Civil Aviation Authority in Britain receives nearly 100 reports each year of bits falling off, either from British aeroplanes abroad, or over this country from any aircraft, including commercial ones. The figure is based on 2.3 million flights on, out of, or over Britain annually.

In recent months, however, there has been a string of notable incidents, including two from 747s in September. One was another wing-flap, found in a field near Pangbourne, Berkshire and the other at Wraybury, Berkshire, where two pieces from a wheel door struck a bungalow.

In June, a teenage boy survived with only a bumped head when an emergency hatch fell 1,000 feet onto him from a light aircraft over Essex.

In April parts of a failed Boeing 737 engine fell into a Surrey garden, part of a fueling system fell through a factory roof at Avonmouth in November and in October a rubber wheel chock fell through the roof of Covent Garden Market in London from a Boeing 737.

The International Airline Passengers Association has already called for certain safety rules to be reviewed, partly because more than 2,000 people have died in airline accidents this year. The association believes the record figure has seriously undermined passengers' confidence.



Ruth Forster, aged 2, admiring St Paul's Cathedral, in the guise of a cake made by her mother, of Cowley, which won the Thames News prize, given by Thames Television, in their annual cake decorating competition at the Royal Institute of British Architects yesterday (Our Architectural Correspondent writes).

The joint first prize winners, who received £100 each, were Mrs Cherry Conway-Hughes (Lloyds of London headquarters) and Mrs June Ridgway (street of terraced houses).

The Lloyd's cake, made of sponge, took 60 hours to "build". Santa Claus is perched on top of one of the service towers inquiring: "But where is the chimney?"

(Photography: Suresh Karadia).

Bar moves to boost aid to public

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Bar is considering an expansion in the work of its "free representation unit" through which young student barristers appear for litigants free of charge, because of cuts in present legal aid provision and cuts in legal services.

At present the unit, which is funded by the Bar Council, takes on some 1,000 cases a year, chiefly before tribunals where legal aid is not available.

So far the unit covers only cases in London; but the new Bar committee on public affairs, set up recently to see how barristers can provide a wider public service, is examining whether it can also serve some of the main centres of the provincial Bar, such as Birmingham and Manchester.

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, the Bar's chairman, says: "The impetus in part comes from the increases in demand on existing areas of legal aid, which means that legal aid is very unlikely to be extended to tribunal work."

In addition, the cutback in funds for law centres, of which I personally disapprove, means that the emphasis will be increasingly on a need for the legal profession to serve those who might not otherwise be able to afford legal representation."

The work of the "free representation unit" is done by Bar students at the College of Legal Education and by trainee barristers, or "pupils", who are referred cases by law centres and Citizens Advice Bureaux.

Tribunal chairmen have said that such representation is of value and far better, for the litigant, than having no representation at all.

Early video games console 'on way out'

By Bill Johnstone

Technology Correspondent

One million owners of video games consoles, forerunner of the home computer, have been given a warning that the machines are becoming obsolete and this Christmas could be the last that the games will be available for purchase.

Mintel, the London-based market research company, says that the market for the video games has declined considerably since its peak four years ago when £20 million of games were sold, although sales are expected to top £8 million this year.

According to the researchers these machines will be obsolete when current software stocks dry up. Increased home computer penetration and the video game's lack of sophistication are significant factors in the demise.

The demise of the console has been due also to increasing competition in the games market. The number of children in the 5 to 14 age group, the electronic game market is declining so the games market is destined to become even more competitive.

Mintel forecasts that the decline will continue before the numbers begin to grow again in the next decade.

There are now more than 4.5 million computers in Britain's homes. By volume, according to Mintel, the Sinclair Spectrum had 40 per cent of sales last year, the Commodore 64 had 35 per cent, and the BBC Accorn, Amstrad and Atari made up the bulk of the remainder.

MAIN REASON FOR BUYING HOME COMPUTER

Reason	Use in past 2-3 months
Children to learn computing	31
Play computer games	28
Adult to learn computing	19
Business	4
Other	6
Don't know/can't recall	12

Sources: British Market Research Bureau/Mintel Base: 157 home computer owners.

ELECTRONIC GAMES, MARKET SIZE, 1984

Computer games	£m RSP	% total
Hand-held and table-top games	100	61
Video games consoles	40	24
Video games	15	9
Other	10	6
Total	165	100

Sources: Mintel and trade estimates RSP: Retail selling prices.

Disney scoop for ITV

ITV is to screen the first full-length classic Walt Disney cartoon film to be released for British television. *Dumbo* and *Alice in Wonderland* are among 20 Disney feature films, acquired in a multi-million pound deal, to be shown next year.

ITV has also bought 10 shorter Disney films, including the classic *Peter and the Wolf*, three *Winnie the Pooh* films and *Mickey's Christmas Carol*, starring Mickey Mouse.

Mr Leslie Halliwell, ITV's film buyer, said yesterday: "Disney have always refused to release their full-length cartoon films for TV, but we finally persuaded them to let us screen two of the best-known."

M-way link for airports opens early

By a Staff Reporter

It will be possible to drive on motorways from Heathrow to Gatwick airports from Thursday when the M25 junction with the M4 is opened, six months ahead of schedule.

The four-level interchange, allowing "free flow" between the motorways, is expected to become Britain's busiest.

Exceptionally mild weather has allowed Cementation and Costain, the contractors, to complete the work ahead of schedule. Until now there have been only two small slip roads making the connection between the motorways.

Two sections of the M25 remain to be completed: the South Mimms to Micklefield Green stretch near the A1 in the north and the Southoaks to Swanley section in the south. Both are expected to open next year.

Seven British airlines have been recommended to receive financial assistance from British Airways to start up new European air services from regional airports in the United Kingdom. Up to £450,000 a route over three years was part of a deal agreed with Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Minister, on providing more competition before BA is privatized.

Driving ban on former cricketer

Fred Titmus, the former England international cricketer, was fined £250 and banned from driving for a year by Hendon magistrates in north-west London yesterday for driving on the M1 while over the limit.

Titmus, aged 53, a postmaster, of Vicarage Road, Potters End, Berkhamstead, admitted having 79mg of alcohol in his breath on December 4.

Milk quotas cut supplies for cheese

By John Young

Agriculture Correspondent

British makers of Farmhouse Cheddar and other "real" cheeses are having to turn away customers because, since the imposition of EEC quotas to curb dairy production, they are unable to obtain enough milk.

The bizarre situation has arisen because the EEC, as a whole still producing more milk than it uses, surplus butter stocks continuing to accumulate, and cheap foreign cheese flooding into Britain in ever larger quantities to replace the shortfall in domestic production.

One reason is that the EEC supports an intervention regime for butter and not for cheese, which means that the Milk Marketing Board obtains a higher price for milk sold for processing into unwanted butter than it gets from cheese makers.

But Lord Chewton, who farms near the village of Chewton Mendip, in Somerset, yesterday also blamed the board's outdated and inflexible pricing system. He accused it of abusing its position as both the near-monopoly buyer of milk off farms and the largest manufacturer of dairy produce.

"All the milk we use for cheese making comes from our own dairy herd," he said. "But we still have to go through this farce of selling it to the board for around 15p a litre and buying it back again for about 12p or 13p."

"Apart from the silliness of the system, that obviously suits us quite well. But the point is that the quota system has forced us to cut back production and, even if we were prepared to pay more, the board flatly refuses to let us buy milk from any other source because it wants to protect supplies to its own creameries."

"Ever since the big stores like Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury's started to put real Farmhouse Cheddar on their shelves, demand has soared," he said.

Total cheese production in Britain last year was estimated at 246 million tonnes, of which about 159 million tonnes was cheddar. Farmhouse production was put at about 23 million tonnes.

The board said last night that it was aware that some farmhouse cheese makers were in difficulties over supplies, but that the quota system had to be applied fairly and did not allow it to discriminate.

BR cancels fee for Pullmans

British Rail is to abandon the £2 supplement collected from first-class passengers on Pullman trains when fares go up on January 12.

Mr Cyril Bleasdale, director of Inter-City services, said British Rail had had complaints about the supplement, particularly from passengers on new Pullman routes to Leeds and Liverpool.

Mother's beatings 'caused son to die'

A boy aged two years, ten months

endured sustained beatings from his mother before he died after a blow caused internal injuries, Nottingham Crown Court was told yesterday.

Rubin Carthy was repeatedly slapped, punched, kicked and hit with a belt in the six months before his death, it was claimed.

The child's mother, Miss Margaret Ricketts, aged 21, of Hartley Road, Radford, Nottingham, denied manslaughter, assault and cruelty likely to cause undue suffering.

The child's father, Rubin Carthy, aged 24, of Duke Street, Nottingham, had admitted assault and cruelty to the court, was told.

Mr Richard Rougier, QC, for the prosecution, said Miss Ricketts and Carthy began living together in 1981 and in April 1982 Miss Ricketts gave birth to Rubin. She had their second child, Simon, in December 1983.

Mr Rougier said that until six months before the child's death there was no reason for alarm, but in August last year neighbours and friends became

concerned when they saw bruises, scratches and a burn mark on the boy's body.

Mr Rougier said that Miss Ricketts and Carthy separated in September 1984. The beatings continued and Rubin was seen to have cuts to his lips and black eyes.

Mr Rougier said the final beatings were administered on February 3 this year when Miss Ricketts was applying cream to her son's legs.

"She delivered a hard punch to his chest and abdomen, sending Rubin sprawling. He got up again and the process of applying cream continued. Then she delivered a heavy kick to the small of the back."

The attack was witnessed by Carthy's sister Elaine Carthy, aged 19.

The next day Miss Carthy saw that Rubin had further bruising to the face, complained of stomach pains and brought up blood.

In the evening Rubin was found lying still on his bed and appeared to be dead. He was taken to hospital where he died some hours later.

Paratroops cleared of rape

Thirteen paratroops were cleared

at Winchester Crown Court yesterday of raping a woman soldier, aged 22.

But three of the soldiers, were found guilty of indecently assaulting her. Two others, on the direction of Mr Justice Bristow, were found not guilty of indecent assault.

Four of the accused were also acquitted of a charge of conspiracy to rape the woman, and, on the judge's direction, three were found not guilty of indecent rape.

The jury of nine men and three women still has to reach verdicts on charges of indecent assault against eight of the accused, and was spending last night in a hotel before resuming its deliberations today. It has to reach verdicts against two accused on a second charge of rape and two accused on a second charge of indecent assault against another.

The judge has directed that the jury should return verdicts of not guilty on a second charge of rape against one of the accused and a second charge of indecent assault against another.

The verdicts yesterday, reached after five hours, meant that one of the 13 accused, a private aged 20, was acquitted of all charges and discharged.

The jury had been told that the woman, a private in the Pay Corps, returned to the barracks of the 1st Parachute Regiment at Bulford, Wiltshire, where she willingly had intercourse with a soldier.

She alleged that she was then raped two or three times, stripped and indecently assaulted.

Killer knifed brave girl, jury told

A man aged 79 murdered

Kirsty Bryant, aged seven, by inflicting more than 70 injuries, most of them stab wounds to the face and neck, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The wounds showed that she had "bravely" tried to defend herself against her attacker, Mr George Watson, Mr Colin Nicholls, QC for the prosecution, said.

Mr Watson had picked up Kirsty outside the restaurant where he worked, taken her to his home in Kingston, Surrey, sexually assaulted her and then stabbed her using a two-pronged kitchen fork and a bread knife, the court was told.

Mr Watson, denied murdering Kirsty, of Addison Gardens, Kingston.

Mr Nicholls said: "Shortly before 5pm on January 29, a seven-year-old girl named Kirsty Bryant disappeared on her way home from school. The following morning, after a widespread hunt, her body was found by her father in a dustbin near where she had last been seen."

The girl had been sexually assaulted and brutally murdered. She had over 70 injuries, mainly stab wounds.

"It was clear from the nature of her injuries and

Lord Blandford on cocaine charge

Lord Blandford, son of the Duke

of Marlborough, was remanded in custody for a week on a cocaine conspiracy charge at Marylebone Magistrates' Court, central London yesterday.

Lord Blandford, aged 30, is heir to the Blenheim Palace estate, the home of the Churchills. He appeared in court with three men and a woman who face similar charges.

They were arrested after raids on Friday by Scotland Yard's Central Drug Squad which

seized cocaine with a street value of about £50,000.

Lord Blandford, an insurance broker, and great nephew of Sir Winston Churchill, was charged in the name of Charles James Blandford. He gave his address as Blenheim Palace.

He is charged with conspiring with his co-defendants and others unknown to contravene the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971 on or before December 13 within the jurisdiction of the Central Criminal Court.

The four co-defendants are:

hours of the next day when he returned from visiting friends.

"Initially, he denied all knowledge of the girl, but later when he was told that her body had been found, he confessed to the murder," Mr Nicholls said.

Kirsty lived with her parents and two brothers, aged 11 and 10. All three children attended St Joseph's School, Fairfield.

Mr Nicholls said that on January 29 Kirsty's mother had asked the older boy, who was going swimming, to take Kirsty part of the way from school and, then let her continue alone a short distance to her aunt's house.

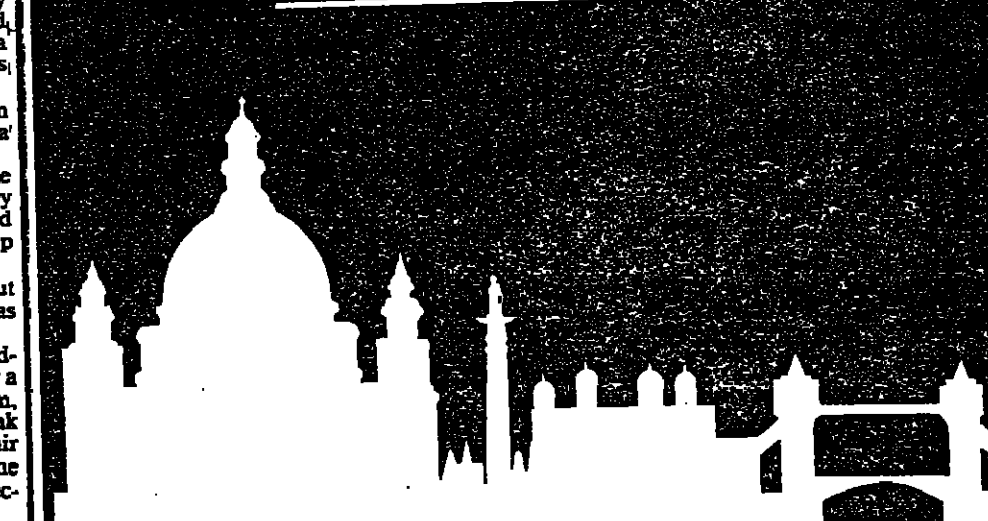
"In fact, the two children decided to buy some chips at a kebab house."

"They both went into the restaurant together but, as they had only 30p, they were advised to go to the fish and chip shop next door."

The fish shop was just about to open and Mr Watson was standing at the front door. "Moments after the defendant was seen talking to the boy a passing motorist saw him, wearing his glasses and a peak cap, and a girl with blonde hair and pony-tail, walking along the Cambridge Road in the direction of his home."

The case continues today.

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PARLIAMENT DECEMBER 16 1985

Social security reform

Fowler plans for a simpler system

PENSIONS

The Government was tackling not only the unemployment trap but the poverty trap as well, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Security, told the Commons when he outlined his White Paper proposals for the reform of the social security system.

The proposals would provide more help particularly for low income families and for the disabled, Mr Fowler said.

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on social security, said that even on the Secretary of State's own figures, 100,000 households would lose benefit, including 2,250,000 pensioners.

Mr Fowler said: We want to see a simpler system of social security which provides a better service to the public. By common consent social security at present is too complex.

We want to see more people looking forward to greater independence in retirement.

We want a system which is financially sound. Above all we want to see more effective help going to those who need it. More than half of those living on the lowest incomes today are families with children. People can still find themselves with less income in work than if they were unemployed. Others can find that a pay rise in work can actually make them worse off. The Government believes that urgent action is necessary to tackle these problems.

Twice as many low income families with children will benefit from the new scheme.

We intend to bring extra support to families who are not in work. This will be achieved through the new income support scheme. It will replace supplementary benefit. As well as a premium for families with children, there will be an additional premium for lone parents and premiums for pensioners and the long-term sick and disabled.

The Government cannot ignore the vast pensions bill which is being handed down to our children. A number of important organizations recognised the case but argued that rather than totally replacing Serps the costs could be reduced by modifying its provisions.

We want to see the future cost of Serps substantially reduced. We want to see many more people with their own pension. The Government propose to modify the scheme so that costs in the next century can be afforded. The Serps change will not affect anyone retiring this century, nor anyone widowed this century.

A special incentive will be given to encourage the setting up of new occupational pension schemes. For the first time every employer will be able to take a personal pension whether or not his employer runs an occupational scheme.

All members of occupational pension schemes will in future have the right to pay additional voluntary contributions in order to boost their income in retirement.

The effect of the White Paper proposals will be to direct substantially more help to low income families with children and to provide more help for disabled people on low incomes.

Following the White Paper, the Government will introduce comprehensive legislation early in the new year. The aim will be to achieve a modern social security system directed help where that help is needed.

Mr Meacher said that following the hurried rebuttal Mr Fowler received from the Green Paper consultation, the Opposition welcomed the fact that the Government had been forced to back off a few of its most damaging original proposals.

But 1,750,000 more people would lose out from this revised package than it would gain. It was much less

Mr Meacher said that following the hurried rebuttal Mr Fowler received from the Green Paper consultation, the Opposition welcomed the fact that the Government had been forced to back off a few of its most damaging original proposals.

Meacher: Millions forced below poverty line

about reform than about cuts totalling around £750 million.

After six months of fudging on the figures and denial of information they knew was available, the nation was still not being told in the White Paper the total of the size of the cuts in the package, or even the actual new benefit rates. To supply illustrative benefit rates only was wholly unacceptable.

On Mr Fowler's illustrative figures, nearly 500,000 would lose more than £5 a week, and 1,250,000 households would lose more than £3 a week, including 500,000 pensioners.

While the Opposition welcomed the fact that the Government had been forced to back down from abolishing Serps, they utterly condemned the emasculated version of the scheme. It would chop £12,000 million, that was almost 50 per cent, off the value of pensions in 2033.

It would throw millions of elderly people back into means-tested poverty, and it was wholly unnecessary when the Government's own pensioners act had pronounced that the funding of the existing Serps scheme was perfectly sound.

How could Mr Fowler possibly justify requiring all households, including pensioners and those on supplementary benefit, to pay 20 per cent towards their rates bills? This was the first time ever that any Government had forced millions of claimants below the poverty line.

Does it not (he asked) expose the policies of this Government when their much-trumpeted review of the welfare state ends up with benefit cuts for the most needy of £750 million, when at the same time this same Government has handed out £2,000 million to the richest 2 per cent of the population on over £50,000 a year?

Mr Fowler: That is a typically foolish response from Mr Meacher. He has put forward a whole series of assertions most of which are totally inaccurate. I make no apology for taking the consultation seriously.

The figures given could only be illustrative because it was impossible to work out the effect of changes following the uprating in 1988. Rates reform would also clearly have an effect.

The proposals were providing more help, not less, for 250,000 low income families with children. They were providing more help for disabled people. They were providing an extension of occupational pensions, a right to personal pensions and a simplification of the system.

On the modification of Serps, the Government's actuary's figures showed that there was going to be a substantial increase in the cost of Serps. On the basis of Mr Meacher's own policies, that was an enormous increase in the cost of Serps. The cost would go up to £73,000 million, which would mean a national insurance contribution increase of 27.5 per cent.

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Mr Fowler said that family credit would be provided for the very poor, about 200,000 families, but what about the rest of the very poor, the more than 10 million unemployed people, many with families.

Would the local authorities be provided with resources to provide the extra housing benefit?

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No Government had spent more time consulting the public and seeking to involve them in making policy.

Mr William Clark (Croydon, South C): Many people will welcome the assistance to low income families. Any fair-minded person must agree that Serps is not funded, it is ludicrous to think that future taxpayers could suffer the burden if Serps were not altered in some way or another.

He asked whether there would be any change in the contribution by the self-employed.

Mr Fowler said there would not be any such change. By 2033, the cost of Serps would have come down from £25 billion to about £13 billion. That was a huge reduction, the cost to almost half.

Mrs Renee Short (Wolverhampton North East, Lab), chairman of the health and social services select committee, asked whether his proposals would mean more or fewer staff running the present system.

Housing and supplementary benefit had already been reduced by the Government and was now to be changed radically.

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He told Mr Roger Freeman (Kettering, C) that the Government was seeking to provide everyone with the right to a personal pension irrespective of whether they were now in a scheme or not. Contributors would be able to benefit from special national insurance incentives and from tax relief.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Denton and Reddish, Lab) said taking away the right of students to claim supplementary benefit during the long vacation would cause considerable hardship. Would the Government be introducing secondary legislation or make all the changes through Parliament?

Mr Fowler said that, as the Green Paper made clear, the Government would be seeking to provide everyone with the right to a personal pension irrespective of whether they were now in a scheme or not. Contributors would be able to benefit from special national insurance incentives and from tax relief.

Mr Charles Kennedy (Ross, Cromarty and Skye, SNP) said the new system would be meaner rather than fairer because Mr Fowler was attempting to redistribute resources according to his own definition of what was deserving and what was undeserving poor. At least two million pensioners would lose £1 a week.

Mr Fowler said when Mr Kennedy had more time to study the proposals, he would be able to say more people would be helped effectively. Low income families were, under any definition, the most in need.

Mr Peter Thorneham (Bolton North East, C) asked how families with more than one disabled child would be helped.

Mr Fowler: From April 1988, Mr Peter Pike (Barnley, Lab) said the changes in Serps were a turning back of the clock for manual workers. To claim national insurance contributions would have to be to 27½ per cent if the changes were not made was blatant scaremongering.

Mr Fowler said it was not blatant scaremongering to quote the Government actuary. He believed the majority of people wanted their own pension.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) is intending to be a Scrooge or a Father Christmas in the announcements he has made? I believe he is intending to be a Father Christmas.

Mr Fowler said that he was trying to be fair.

Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Lab) said however much the chairman of the Conservative Party (Mr Norman Tebbit) tried to dress it up, this was a charter for more cuts, more cuts in the welfare state, more misery. The absence from the Chamber of the Prime Minister and other Cabinet colleagues indicated that they were ashamed of the White Paper.

Mr Fowler said he scarcely recognized any member of the Opposition Front Bench. The public would judge the proposals side by side with those of Mr Meacher, such as abolition of mortgage tax relief.

continue to be deeply involved with the Serps problem. Mr Paddy Ashdown (Yeovil, L) asked for confirmation that the Westland relationship with Sikorski stretched back over 40 years of fruitful co-operation and that the Government was not prepared to let the statement but perhaps enhanced by it.

He asked for a clear undertaking that Westland would not be penalized because they had put some individual Cabinet ministers' noses out of joint.

Mr Brittan said the Government would not act in the irresponsible way Mr Ashdown had just suggested. It would be the duty of all members of the Government to ensure that orders were placed for the helicopters that were needed.

The Government was committed to the EH101 and so was Westland. European Technologies had said they would not interfere with it in any way and would assist with its promotion in North America.

Responding to an invitation by Mr Robert Bingham (Birmingham, Edgbaston, Lab), Mr Brittan said he readily congratulated Mr Heseltine trying to see if a European solution was possible.

In the course of a short time, Mr Heseltine had succeeded in bringing together a remarkable extent an offer which in the end, the company did not feel was sufficiently firm or sufficiently attractive.

Later Mr Brittan said that whereas the Ministry of Defence was a major customer of Westland, the Department of Industry was the sponsoring department for aerospace industries.

He continued that it was the intention of United Technologies that the substantial building of Black Hawk in the UK, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory (Wells, C) have United Technologies agree to limit their stake in Westland to 29.9 per cent or more it be a prelude to a full bid in due course?

Mr Brittan: I am advised that the proposal of the Sikorski-Fiat for an initial 29.9 per cent with an option to acquire further shares to bring the holding up to 35 to 40 per cent but not more than that. The full details will be made public by the company in a couple of days.

Copyright change

Mr Geoffrey Pattle, Minister for Information Technology, in a Commons written reply, said the Government expected to publish a White Paper early next year setting out the Government's proposals for the reform of copyright law.

WHITE PAPER

Benefit plans in detail

Pensioners lose and lone parents gain in shake-up

Report by Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Sweeping changes in Britain's social security system, involving gains and losses for millions of claimants of up to £5 a week, and more in some cases, are outlined in the White Paper on social security.

Broadly, the proposals take money from pensioners, young people, the single and the children unemployed to provide extra help for families with children, particularly those in low-paid work, and for the sick and disabled.

Under the changes about 3.8 million people will be left worse off, including 2.2 million pensioners, of whom 650,000 face losses of under £1 a week, but 810,000 of whom lose more than £2 a week, with 90,000 losing more than £5.

Just under 2.2 million people make gains from the changes, with the chief gainers including 980,000 lone parents and couples with children, of whom 410,000 will be more than £5 a week better off.

Pensioners are the biggest single group of losers, with only 800,000 making gains, generally of under £2 a week, while 1,360,000 single pensioners and 860,000 couples face losses. Single people aged under 25 also face significant losses with 260,000 losing between £1 and £3 a week and 110,000 losing £4 a week or more.

The immediate impact of the changes, due to start in April 1988, will be lessened by a promise of "transitional protection" so that those who would lose will continue to receive their current rate of benefit until the annual upratings of social security result in the new rates catching up with what they currently receive.

The chief cut in the proposals is a £450

million reduction in spending on housing benefit with changes since the Green Paper last June, meaning that those in rented housing are to lose more to help protect owner-occupiers.

Among the key changes are:

- Plans to retain the state earnings related pension scheme, but reducing by almost a half its long term cost.
- Encouragement of more occupational and private pension schemes.
- Important changes in the structure of income-related benefits so that the same means tests will be used for income support, housing benefit and family credit. That will simplify administration and end some of the anomalies where people in similar circumstances can receive widely differing amounts of help.

- The use of income after the payment of tax and national insurance in calculating the new family credit which gives extra help to families in low-paid work. The effect of that is to end the worst part of the poverty trap, but many more families will be affected by a milder version of it.

- A new social fund to make discretionary loans rather than grants in place of single payments now made for items such as furniture and bedding to people on supplementary benefit.

- The abolition of the £25 maternity grant and £30 death grant to be replaced by means-tested help from the social fund.
- A new tax-free lumpsum payment for widows to replace widow's allowance, with changes in widow's benefits to concentrate help on older widows and those with children.

Slim-line Serps survives

The state earnings related pension scheme (Serps) is to be retained, but in a heavily cut-down version, with moves to boost the number of occupational schemes, and to provide everyone with the right to a personal pension.

Under the plans, the eventual cost of Serps and thus the benefits it pays out is to be virtually halved from the £25 billion the scheme would cost when it reaches full maturity in the year 2033, to £13 billion.

That will be achieved by basing the pension on average lifetime earnings, rather than the best 20 years, as at present. The change will be disadvantageous to manual workers, whose earnings often peak in their thirties or forties, and people who have spells of unemployment.

However, women who take time off work to bring up children, the disabled, and those who look after them, will not have to count those years in the calculation of average lifetime earnings, provided they have worked for 20 years.

Serps pensions will be based on 20 per cent of earnings, not 25 per cent as at present. This change will be phased in over 10 years starting in the year 2000.

Occupational schemes will have to inflation-proof the guaranteed minimum pensions they pay out, up to the first 3 per cent a year. At present the state does all the inflation-proofing. Widows and older widows will only be able to

retire this century, nor anyone widowed this century.

The changes are to be introduced in April 1988 together with measures to increase the number of occupational pension schemes, which currently cater for 11 million people against the 10 million in Serps. At the same time everyone is to be given the right to a personal pension.

Pension schemes will be able to contract out of Serps with "money-purchase" schemes, where employers and employees put fixed sums into a pension scheme with the final scheme does.

Everyone will have the right to a personal pension on top of their employers' scheme and will be allowed to opt out of employers' or the state scheme for a personal pension.

Anyone changing jobs will have the right to transfer accrued benefits to a personal pension, but will not automatically be able to transfer rights built up before the changes were introduced.

Administration of personal pensions will be run by the Department of Health and Social Security.

To encourage an increase in personal pensions and occupational schemes any new scheme will receive a bonus with an extra 2 per cent of earnings paid into the schemes by the government for a five-year period from 1988.

The White Paper says: "The changes will not affect anyone inheriting half their spouse's Serps pension, instead of all of it (up to a ceiling) as at present."

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DEFENCE

As a private sector company it was for Westland, the helicopter manufacturer, to decide the best route to follow in order to secure its future and that of its employees, Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in a statement to the Commons.

The Government, he said, had ensured that Westland had an alternative European-based offer to consider.

Mr Brittan said: For some months now Westland plc has been in serious financial difficulties and have been seeking an association with an external partner or partners. Negotiations commenced in September 1985 and led to a proposal from Fiat and United Technologies.

At the suggestion of the Secretary of State for Defence, the Government agreed that Mr Heseltine should explore the possibility of an alternative association with Aerospaciale, MBB and Agusta becoming available to Westland.

An initial proposal emerged and while it was being produced, the National Armaments Directors of the UK, France, Germany and Italy made a recommendation to the Government's policy agreed with our European allies in 1978 and of our general approach to defence matters set out in the 1985 statement on the defence estimates.

The existence of the National Armaments Directors' recommendation was regarded by Westland as a major obstacle to the United Technologies-Fiat option which they at all times preferred.

In view of the urgent necessity for a deal to be concluded quickly, the Government decided that from December 13 they would not be bound by the National Armaments Directors' recommendations unless Westland had by then received a firm offer from the three European companies which the board would recommend to its shareholders.

The Government's intention was to give time for the completion of a firm offer to Westland, but to remove any politically imposed obstacle facing Westland if such an offer was not made in time or was unacceptable to Westland.

At the end of last week, British Aerospace announced that they were prepared to provide a quarter of the funds offered by the European Consortium. Also the Governments of the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy agreed, but on an entirely provisional basis, that if the European offer was accepted they would meet their requirements in each of the three helicopter classes by a single collaborative solution.

Westland plc announced on Friday evening that agreement had been reached in principle whereby United Technologies and Fiat will between them take a minority shareholding in Westland. The view of the board of Westland was that the European offer which was finally received was neither firm enough nor attractive enough for them to be able to recommend it to their shareholders.

Accordingly, the Government is not bound by the National Armaments Directors' recommendation. Full details of the United Technologies/Fiat agreement and of a capital raise by Westland will be announced by the company shortly. As part of the proposed arrangements Westland will take a licence from the Sikorski division of United Technologies to manufacture, develop and sell the Blackhawk helicopter.

Westland solution without taxpayers footing bill

part in feasibility studies on a developed version of the A129 and on the NH90. United Technologies have assured Westland that they will continue to maintain a helicopter design and development capability in the UK.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, commented: Surely he is not seeking to pretend there have not been fundamental disagreements going right to the heart of Government policy between him and the Secretary of State for Defence (Mr

Ashdown: Westland's should not be penalized

Heseltine), which have been advertised in the extraordinary public wrangling of recent days? Should our defence policy really be decided by the interests of a private sector company?

Is it not revealing that Mr Heseltine has been fighting for a concept of the national interest while Mr Brittan has been fighting for the ideologically-motivated non-interventionist stance of the Tory party?

Is it not the case, as usually happens when the Prime Minister intervenes, party ideology has once again triumphed over the national interest?

Why should we disbelieve Mr Heseltine when he tells us the US deal will mean a high technology British company being reduced to metal-bashing and that the deal may prejudice future European defence cooperation, particularly on major helicopter projects?

Is it not sad that the Government can assist the Westland chairman to remove all restrictions on trading hours both in the week and on Sunday.

It would have the effect of introducing for the first time a general statutory prohibition on opening for more than four hours on Sunday in England.

It was the first of several amendments which gave local authorities powers to decide opening hours without any guidance on the principles on which they must base their decision.

He could not accept the implications of the proposal and the chaos it would cause all over the country.

No comment on report

everybody in this country not to develop nuclear power further until he can assure us that the nuclear industry can dispose of its waste safely. The Select Committee on the Environment has made that point.

It is irresponsible of the Government to go ahead until it can give the public that assurance.

Mr Goodlad: I cannot comment in advance of the select committee report which I understand is expected in the new year.

Copyright change

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Copyright change

Parliament today

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NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

Mr Alastair Goodlad, Under Secretary of State for Energy, declined to comment at question time in the Commons on a report in The Times that the Select Committee on the Environment was considering a draft report critical of the nuclear industry.

Mr Harvey Proctor (Billerica, C): In the light of disturbing comments in the newspapers this morning would he remind the House that the nuclear industry has a proven safety record and safe track record?

Mr Goodlad: I cannot comment on press reports but would like to confirm that the safety record of the nuclear industry is excellent.

Mrs Ann Clwyd (Cynon Valley, Lab): Surely it is in the interest of

Housing cuts total £450m

Aside from the long-term savings on the state earnings-related pension scheme (Serps), housing benefit bears the chief brunt of cuts in the reforms.

Spending on the £4.3 billion benefit is to be reduced by £450 million, £50 million less than the Green Paper proposals earlier this year. The new system will be simpler, with only two tapers (the formula used to withdraw help with rent and rates as income rises) instead of six at present.

The new system will be more generous to the poorest who will have all their rent met. (Under the present system, some are paid only 60 per cent of it.) As income rises, help is to be withdrawn faster than under the current rules, however.

In future the means test for housing benefit will be the same as that used for income support and family credit, removing anomalies that could lead to people on the same income receiving differing amounts of help with housing costs.</

Surgeons set to carry out first artificial heart implant in UK

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Britain's first artificial heart implant operation is likely to be carried out within the next few weeks.

Surgeons and medical staff at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge, have almost completed their preparations for the operation after months of study, research and training.

The recipient of the artificial heart will be one of a small group of seriously ill patients in imminent danger of dying because no suitable donor heart can be found.

The hospital has been given nine of the plastic devices by Humana Inc, the American-based international health care organization.

A spokesman for Papworth emphasized yesterday that the 10-cm-long, 7-cm-wide device will not be implanted permanently. The intention is to replace them with donor organs as soon as possible.

The artificial heart has been given to five patients in the United States in the past three years. Of three survivors, Mr William Schroeder, aged 52, has lived longest, passing the first anniversary of his operation last month.

But Mr Schroeder has suffered a series of strokes which damaged his memory and seriously impaired his speech after the operation, and his poor quality of life has provoked debate in the United States over the ethics of implant surgery.

The first non-American to receive an artificial heart was a Swede who died soon afterwards last month.

Britain's first implant will be carried out at Papworth by Mr

Terence English, who went to the Human Heart Institute in Louisville, Kentucky, earlier this year, to study the techniques.

A few weeks ago, nurses from the institute arrived at Papworth to help to train nurses in caring for implant patients.

The Jarvik-7 is powered by a 323lb compressor - at the patient's bedside, but a portable compressor, weighing about 11lb, can be used to give mobility.

Mr English and colleagues at Papworth accepted the offer of the Jarvik-7s, along with equipment, and training support valued at more than £250,000 from Humana because they believe the artificial heart has an important role as a life-prolonging last resort.

Unlike some American doctors, they are opposed to the permanent implantation of the devices because they feel it is a life-support apparatus rather than a transplant.

They are also worried about the risks of stroke and other side-effects, such as blood clotting, which have happened after some of the operations in the United States. Such problems, they believe, will gradually be overcome.

Although Papworth has been given nine artificial hearts, the hospital is unlikely to use them all within the next year, and each is likely to be used more than once.

The operation will be restricted to a small number of patients because of the availability of donor hearts, and the much higher costs of nursing artificial heart patients.

New deal denied on teachers' pay

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The two sides in the teachers' pay dispute meet today for informal talks amid denials from the Prime Minister's office that a new deal for teachers is in the offing.

Today's talks between the local authority employers and the teachers' unions are aimed at getting back into negotiations on the last informal offer of 6.9 per cent, staged so that teachers would get 7.5 per cent by the end of March.

The Labour-dominated employers do not appear optimistic about prospects for a settlement of the 10-month dispute. They draw attention to their dire financial straits and that the National Union of Teachers, the biggest union,

which has lost its majority on the teachers' side, will not necessarily call off, or be able to prevent, continued industrial action if a settlement were reached.

That would affect the big metropolitan authorities, which the teachers' unions are aimed at getting back into negotiations on the last informal offer of 6.9 per cent, staged so that teachers would get 7.5 per cent by the end of March.

The Government is understood to be making contingency plans if the talks come to nothing and the dispute goes on. Nothing is expected to be offered to the teachers before Christmas.

Community architecture: 2

People in Liverpool are taking the reins

In the second of two articles on community architecture, CHARLES KNEVITT, Architecture Correspondent, reports on some projects entered for The Times/RIBA Community Enterprise Scheme. Shortlisted entries for 1985-86 will be published tomorrow.

Liverpool is a place of pilgrimage for those wishing to see community architecture at work. Politicians (including the Prime Minister) and the press have visited the housing co-operatives where people take control of commissioning, designing and managing their own estates.

Mr Alan Hoyte, the first chairman of the Heslith Street Co-operative, had this to say about his experience: "The most important thing about it is the power to the people bit. In general, the people are told what they are getting, not asked what they want."

"But once we had established our viability by being accepted by the Government for funding, we determined everything, the way we lived, and who we employed to run our affairs. We did not succumb to bureaucracy."

"We got the architects and builders and everybody else on our terms. We told them what we wanted and consulted at every stage."

"We've proved to the council and government, and anybody else listening, that if people are given the reins, get the right help and are committed, they can come up with a really excellent, viable housing scheme that people want to live in."

The essential difference between traditional practice and community architecture is that communities have a large measure of involvement, if not total control, in organizing their own affairs. Their professional advisers "enable" them to get what they want, rather than "provide" what they, as the experts, think the people should have.

Although architects are often the professionals (there are thought to be about 1,000 now



using this approach), planners, surveyors and other environmental professions are increasingly involved. Most are represented by the Association of Community Technical Aid Centres (ACTAC).

Within days the first family will move into 46 houses in a new estate of 36 houses in Toxteth, Liverpool 8, scene of riots in 1981. In 1982, a group of housewives launched their own co-op, appointed Innes Wilkin Ainsley Common as architects, and started building.

When the scheme is completed next summer, residents will run the estate, collecting rents and organizing maintenance and repairs.

In Kent Road and Cleveland Street, Glasgow 3, Avelon Corner Housing Co-operative is rehabilitating four traditional tenement blocks after the landlords failed to carry out essential repairs.

Miss Evelyn Cameron, development officer of the new Housing Association, said: "As private developers were closing in all round it seemed likely that the blocks would be demolished, the site sold to the highest bidder, and yet another community split up and shipped out to the peripheral estates."

Instead, the residents will stay put, take equity in the project and with trade skills will form a maintenance squad to look after the new flats.

More than half the projects entered for the Community Enterprise Scheme are community centres, workshops, gardens and environmental improvements.

Concluded



Prisoners convicted of serious traffic offences, including manslaughter, bowing at the "Monument of Atonement" in Ichihara prison, north-east of Tokyo.

Social steel of an economic giant

JAPAN AS NUMBER 1

Part 2

The main front-page news item in one of Japan's leading newspapers on a recent Sunday was about a reduction in the cost of facsimile transmissions.

The article was not there merely because this was a thin day for news. Japanese newspapers are as intense and serious as their readers about the business of life. They cater to a people with the highest literacy rate in the world, who are also among the best educated. Japanese newspapers reach more readers than those of any in the non-communist world at 563 per thousand of population; the British figure for the same year, 1983, was 426.

Education has always been a high priority for the Japanese, both as a nation and individually, since the Meiji restoration of 1868, which not only began the process of opening up the

country to the West, but also made the Japanese realize how little they knew about the modern world.

Most now consider they have caught up with the West in everything but quality of life.

Last May Japanese universities turned out 373,302 graduates, of whom 71,396 were engineers, human fuel for the high technology hot-houses of industry.

But if anyone thinks that once they struggle into the company of their choice, they will wear themselves out competing with the rest of the world, the statistics contradict it. Japan now has the longest life-expectancy in the world for men 74.5 years and for women 80.1.

Admittedly those who live longest at the moment tend to live in rural areas and to have access to a largely traditional, low-cholesterol diet of fish, vegetables and rice.

The younger generations have been taking to Western food with a consequent rapid improvement in physique, but problems of obesity are occurring among school-age children

who have been stuffing themselves with such food.

Japan can boast the lowest crime rate in the non-communist, developed world. Overall incidence of crime in 1983 was barely one sixth of that in Britain. There are slightly differing classifications of law-breaking in Japan and the West but the overall picture is of a society less given to crime than in other developed countries. Though crime rates are rising inexorably, they do so more slowly than elsewhere.

There are powerful social and cultural reasons. Conviction brings such condemnation from society and such a loss of face for family and firm as to be well-nigh unthinkable. Once they arrest a suspect, the police have a minimum of 23 days to ask their questions while he or she is detained in police cells.

The Japanese media set little store by the idea that a suspect is innocent until proven guilty: conviction by headline and gossip-show host is the rule rather than the exception.

The stability of the so-called life-time employment system, which guarantees that the employee will see to the company's welfare throughout his working life, is also conducive to a contented and productive work-force, assisted by the sense of obligation that this system engenders. Many young workers will also be dependent upon their company for either a relatively low-rental flat or for a low-interest loan towards the purchase of a home.

Many of Japan's social and economic parameters are changing, partly through foreign pressure but largely because the past 40 years have irrevocably changed the country itself.

Concluded

SOCIAL PROGRESS IN JAPAN

Literacy rate: 99 per cent.
Elementary and middle school attendance: 99.99 per cent.
Number of universities: 457.
University and college students: 1,750,000 (1983).
Average cost of a house and land one hour from central Tokyo: Yen 50 million (£170,000).
Served by sewerage systems nationally: 92 per cent.
Social security payments as percentage of national income: 14.1 (1982).

First game falls to Kasparov

By Raymond Keene

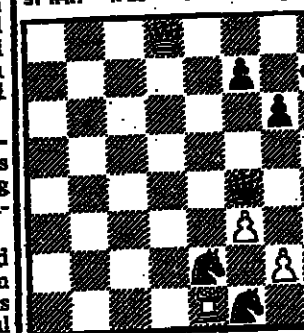
The world chess champion, Garry Kasparov, has opened with a beautiful win in Hilversum, Holland, in the first encounter of his six-game challenge match against the world No 3, Jan Timman, the Dutch Grandmaster.

The match, which runs until December 22, is of immense importance. It is the first time since the days of Edward Lasker at the beginning of the century, that a world chess champion has agreed willingly to contest a challenge with a leading rival without first making that player go through complex financial or qualifying hoops.

In the first game, on Sunday, Kasparov, with the Black pieces, produced a theoretical innovation on move 20 and held a clear advantage ten moves later.

A tactical point on move 31 gave him the advantage of two knights for a rook, and he converted this into a crushing attack against the White King.

White Timman		Black Kasparov	
Roy Lopez opening		Roy Lopez opening	
1 P-K4	P-K4	2 N-M3	N-M3
2 P-B4	P-B4	3 B-N3	B-N3
3 P-K3	P-K3	4 P-Q4	P-Q4
4 P-Q4	P-Q4	5 P-B3	P-B3
5 P-B3	P-B3	6 P-K3	P-K3
6 P-K3	P-K3	7 P-Q4	P-Q4
7 P-Q4	P-Q4	8 P-B3	P-B3
8 P-B3	P-B3	9 P-K3	P-K3
9 P-K3	P-K3	10 P-Q4	P-Q4
10 P-Q4	P-Q4	11 P-B3	P-B3
11 P-B3	P-B3	12 P-K3	P-K3
12 P-K3	P-K3	13 P-Q4	P-Q4
13 P-Q4	P-Q4	14 P-B3	P-B3
14 P-B3	P-B3	15 P-K3	P-K3
15 P-K3	P-K3	16 P-Q4	P-Q4
16 P-Q4	P-Q4	17 P-B3	P-B3
17 P-B3	P-B3	18 P-K3	P-K3
18 P-K3	P-K3	19 P-Q4	P-Q4
19 P-Q4	P-Q4	20 P-B3	P-B3
20 P-B3	P-B3	21 P-K3	P-K3
21 P-K3	P-K3	22 P-Q4	P-Q4
22 P-Q4	P-Q4	23 P-B3	P-B3
23 P-B3	P-B3	24 P-K3	P-K3
24 P-K3	P-K3	25 P-Q4	P-Q4
25 P-Q4	P-Q4	26 P-B3	P-B3
26 P-B3	P-B3	27 P-K3	P-K3
27 P-K3	P-K3	28 P-Q4	P-Q4
28 P-Q4	P-Q4	29 P-B3	P-B3
29 P-B3	P-B3	30 P-K3	P-K3
30 P-K3	P-K3	31 P-Q4	P-Q4
31 P-Q4	P-Q4	32 P-B3	P-B3
32 P-B3	P-B3	33 P-K3	P-K3
33 P-K3	P-K3	34 P-Q4	P-Q4
34 P-Q4	P-Q4	35 P-B3	P-B3
35 P-B3	P-B3	36 P-K3	P-K3
36 P-K3	P-K3	37 P-Q4	P-Q4
37 P-Q4	P-Q4	38 P-B3	P-B3
38 P-B3	P-B3	39 P-K3	P-K3
39 P-K3	P-K3	40 P-Q4	P-Q4
40 P-Q4	P-Q4	41 P-B3	P-B3
41 P-B3	P-B3	42 P-K3	P-K3
42 P-K3	P-K3	43 P-Q4	P-Q4
43 P-Q4	P-Q4	44 P-B3	P-B3
44 P-B3	P-B3	45 P-K3	P-K3
45 P-K3	P-K3	46 P-Q4	P-Q4
46 P-Q4	P-Q4	47 P-B3	P-B3
47 P-B3	P-B3	48 P-K3	P-K3
48 P-K3	P-K3	49 P-Q4	P-Q4
49 P-Q4	P-Q4	50 P-B3	P-B3
50 P-B3	P-B3	51 P-K3	P-K3
51 P-K3	P-K3	52 P-Q4	P-Q4
52 P-Q4	P-Q4	53 P-B3	P-B3
53 P-B3	P-B3	54 P-K3	P-K3
54 P-K3	P-K3	55 P-Q4	P-Q4
55 P-Q4	P-Q4	56 P-B3	P-B3
56 P-B3	P-B3	57 P-K3	P-K3
57 P-K3	P-K3	58 P-Q4	P-Q4
58 P-Q4	P-Q4	59 P-B3	P-B3
59 P-B3	P-B3	60 P-K3	P-K3
60 P-K3	P-K3	61 P-Q4	P-Q4
61 P-Q4	P-Q4	62 P-B3	P-B3
62 P-B3	P-B3	63 P-K3	P-K3
63 P-K3	P-K3	64 P-Q4	P-Q4
64 P-Q4	P-Q4	65 P-B3	P-B3
65 P-B3	P-B3	66 P-K3	P-K3
66 P-K3	P-K3	67 P-Q4	P-Q4
67 P-Q4	P-Q4	68 P-B3	P-B3
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69 P-K3	P-K3	70 P-Q4	P-Q4
70 P-Q4	P-Q4	71 P-B3	P-B3
71 P-B3	P-B3	72 P-K3	P-K3
72 P-K3	P-K3	73 P-Q4	P-Q4
73 P-Q4	P-Q4	74 P-B3	P-B3
74 P-B3	P-B3	75 P-K3	P-K3
75 P-K3	P-K3	76 P-Q4	P-Q4
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78 P-K3	P-K3	79 P-Q4	P-Q4
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84 P-K3	P-K3	85 P-Q4	P-Q4
85 P-Q4	P-Q4	86 P-B3	P-B3
86 P-B3	P-B3	87 P-K3	P-K3
87 P-K3	P-K3	88 P-Q4	P-Q4
88 P-Q4	P-Q4	89 P-B3	P-B3
89 P-B3	P-B3	90 P-K3	P-K3
90 P-K3	P-K3	91 P-Q4	P-Q4
91 P-Q4	P-Q4	92 P-B3	P-B3
92 P-B3	P-B3	93 P-K3	P-K3
93 P-K3	P-K3	94 P-Q4	P-Q4
94 P-Q4	P-Q4	95 P-B3	P-B3
95 P-B3	P-B3	96 P-K3	P-K3
96 P-K3	P-K3	97 P-Q4	P-Q4
97 P-Q4	P-Q4	98 P-B3	P-B3
98 P-B3	P-B3	99 P-K3	P-K3
99 P-K3	P-K3	100 P-Q4	P-Q4



Leading critic in Yugoslavia seriously ill

Belgrade. - Mr Milovan Djilas, Yugoslavia's oldest and most famous dissenter, is undergoing hospital treatment after an attack of heart muscle failure (Dessa Trevisan writes).

He was placed in intensive care on Friday.

Mr Djilas, who has been suffering from circulation problems for a year, is said to have improved and his condition is described as satisfactory.

Mr Djilas, aged 74, has spent more than nine years in communist prisons. He also served a jail term in monarchist Yugoslavia as a communist conspirator.

Comecon meeting to shed light on Gorbachov integration policy

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Key pointers to the extent to which Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, intends to push for greater economic integration between the Soviet Union and its East European allies are expected to emerge from a meeting of the 10 Comecon Prime Ministers which opens today.

Soviet sources have indicated that the three-day extraordinary meeting of the Communist trading bloc will also discuss ways of narrowing the technology gap with the West. The ostensible purpose of the session is to co-ordinate the five year plans of the countries involved.

The meeting, between the Soviet Union, its East European allies and Mongolia, Vietnam and Cuba, coincides with a European tour by Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, which has been criticized by the official Soviet media.

Diplomats noted that today's session would be the first since the publication in October of a Soviet Communist Party programme which said that bonds between Moscow and its East European allies must tighten.

The programme, due to be adopted at next February's 27th Party Congress, said each East European state had its own national traditions and economic characteristics, but emphasized that those were of secondary importance compared with the ties uniting them under Soviet leadership.

"What unites and forges the Socialist countries together is paramount and immeasurably greater than what divides them," the document stated. It later emphasized that the "development of Socialist integration must enhance the technical and economic invulnerability of the community to hostile actions of imperialism."

Since taking power in March Mr Gorbachov has criticized the economic and trading performance of the Soviet Union's allies, calling for greater cohesion within Comecon.

Western embassies will monitor the meeting - Comecon's 41st - for indications of differences between the Soviet Union and such members as Hungary and Romania.

Mr Janos Kadar, the Communist Party leader, said Mr Shultz is on a 10-day tour of Europe that includes visits to three communist countries described by a US official as "off the reservation" in their relations with the Soviet Union: Romania, which occasionally differs with the rest of the Soviet bloc on foreign policy issues, Hungary, which has strayed from the Kremlin model of tightly controlled economic planning, and non-aligned Yugoslavia.

Colombo lists truce violations

Colombo - The Sri Lankan Government has accused Tamil separatist guerrillas of 2,006 violations of the June 18 ceasefire and the murder of 378 people (Vijitha Yapa writes).

The Ministry of National Security said yesterday that among those killed were 82 soldiers and policemen.

In addition to the 296 civilians killed, there had been more than 260 abductions. Only a few victims had been released, and the rest were feared dead.

Costa Rica orders out peace marchers

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

A right-wing mob attacked several hundred peace marchers with stones and tear gas as they entered San José.

Several marchers were injured in the attack on Sunday people (Vijitha Yapa writes).

It began in Panama a week ago but was delayed at the border with Costa Rica for two days by night-walking protesters and bureaucracy. The marchers were finally allowed to enter Costa Rica and given a police escort to San José on condition that they held no public marches or rallies.

The 250 pacifists from about 40 countries, including Britain, are on a six-week trek through Central America to call for peace, non-intervention and respect for human rights.

When their five buses arrived on Sunday night, police stood back while about 100 members of a neo-fascist group, Free Costa Rica, shouted "out of Costa Rica" and threw tear gas and stones.

The marchers and about 200 Costa Rican supporters responded with songs and chants. Senior Piza, a founding member of Free Costa Rica, asked the marchers to leave the country immediately because he could not guarantee their safety.

When not travelling, he leads a quiet life in Antibes, in the south of France. He lives in a two-bedroomed flat overlooking the port, with a French woman, a "great friend and companion".

Thought of as a Catholic novelist, "I am a novelist who happens to be a Catholic". Asked what he thought of the Roman Catholic hierarchy's criticism of the Nicaraguan Government, he said: "I hate it."

His latest book, *Getting to Know the General*, is an account of his friendship with Torrijos, a friendship which could have come from the pages of one of his novels.

Mr Greene has frequently used Latin American countries as settings for his books.

Religion is a dominant theme in his work but he refuses to be

accused. "I'm interested, very interested in Nicaragua," he said, after attending a religious celebration in the old university town of León.

He generally approves of the Sandinista political system. "I think there is a respect for differences of opinion in Nicaragua [and] a respect for religion."

He is critical of President Reagan's support for guerrillas fighting to overthrow the Sandinistas, but adds: "I'm not a communist. I'd like to see, as I think Omar Torrijos (the former Panamanian leader) wanted to see, a social democratic Central America."

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Syria defends Lebanese border missile policy after Israeli complaint

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Accusing Israel of "preparing a new military adventure against Syria", the Syrians yesterday defended their decision to redeploy anti-aircraft missiles along their border with Lebanon. They also said they had just received new naval vessels from the Soviet Union.

An editorial in the government newspaper *Tishrin*, clearly written by a senior member of President Assad's Government, condemned Israel's complaints about the missiles and asked why Israel felt free to carry out "aggressive air raids" on Lebanese territory, but then "starts screaming" when an Arab country takes defensive measures.

The crisis has surprised diplomats in Beirut who know Syria deployed anti-aircraft missiles on the mountains above the Bekaa Valley, just inside its own border, more than 18 months ago. Indeed, the rocket batteries are visible from the main Damascus highway at al-Jeddeh, each set of missiles perched on the heights of the Sheikh Mansour mountain range and defended by mobile anti-aircraft guns.

The Israelis say one missile battery is sited at Zabadani, north of Damascus, although the rockets are in fact positioned about six miles south of the Syrian village, not far from the Damascus-Bloudan railway line. Over the past two weeks Syria has redeployed some of its

missile batteries along the mountain ridges although it is unclear why this should suddenly have provoked Israel's concern.

According to Lieutenant-General Moshe Levy, the Israeli Chief of Staff, the rockets are "affecting and... blocking our freedom of flight over Lebanon to a significant degree", although Israeli jets over Lebanon, whether on reconnaissance flights or air raids, have been in range of Syria's Sam 2 and Sam 6 missile batteries for many months.

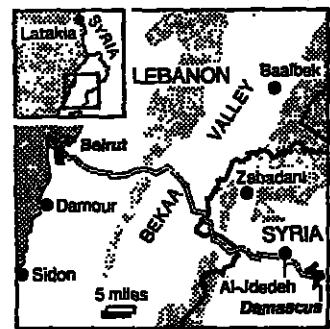
The Syrians would say yesterday only that they had made "changes in the deployment" of their missiles along the border with Lebanon. They made no mention of Israel's claim that Sam missiles were briefly moved into Lebanon itself in the autumn.

In Damascus, the party newspaper *al-Baath* said Syria

would not be "alone" in a future conflict with Israel - an obvious reference to the Soviet Union - although it was in the newspaper *Tishrin* that the Government expressed its fury.

"How strange and illogical is the thinking of the Israeli commanders and their American backers," the paper said. "Washington and Tel Aviv do not see any violation of international law when Israeli jets repeatedly violate Lebanese airspace for reconnaissance or aggressive air raids in Lebanese territory. But when an Arab country takes defensive measures, the Israelis start screaming that their security is in danger. What they mean is that security for their aggression and violations is in danger."

The official Syrian news agency meanwhile announced the acquisition of new "naval and support units from the Soviet Union" which were, it said, delivered to the port of Latakia at a ceremony attended by the Soviet Ambassador to Damascus, Mr Feliks Fedotov and Major-General Hikmat Shehadi, the Syrian Chief of Staff. The agency disclosed no details of the new vessels, but their arrival confirms that the Soviet Union is still prepared to supply Damascus with advanced weaponry despite the failure of Syrian policy in Lebanon.



American troops of the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai desert erecting a memorial of a pair of boots, an assault rifle and an orange beret at Sharm-el-sheikh in tribute to their comrades who died in the Gander air crash last week.

Defeat for Reagan Congress halts Asat weapon testing

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

In a serious blow to President Reagan, Congressional leaders have refused to approve funds for further testing of an anti-satellite (Asat) weapon.

Mr Reagan halted September's successful first test of an Asat weapon in space against an old American research satellite after a device was fired from an F15 fighter plane at 40,000 feet. The test demonstrated a potential anti-satellite capability far in advance of the relatively crude system the Soviet Union has deployed for many years.

Two more tests were planned in the near future under a programme earlier authorized by Congress. The present has, agreed by Democrat and Republican negotiators in a congressional conference on defence spending, now goes to the House of Representatives and the Senate for final approval. The bill would last until October 1 next year.

Anti-nuclear campaigners hailed the decision as a victory. Representative Lee Aspin, a Democrat from Oregon, said: "We did more for arms control in five hours than has been done in the last five years. It's a triumph."

Mr Reagan has repeatedly rejected Soviet calls for a superpower moratorium on the testing of anti-satellite weapons, claiming that the Soviet Union has the only operational Asat system. He has also argued that the US programme would be an incentive in the Geneva arms negotiations.

● Tax reform appeal: Mr Reagan was due to make an

unusual visit yesterday to Capitol Hill in a last-ditch attempt to round up enough votes to ensure discussion of his cherished tax reform proposals (Michael Blyden writes).

His personal appeal to hesitant Republican Congressmen came after intensive telephone lobbying, including calls from his Air Force One plane as he travelled to and from the memorial services in Kentucky for American servicemen killed in the Gander air crash.

Mr Donald Regan, the White House Chief of Staff, said the Administration was still working on gathering the necessary votes. "It's slow, but we're coming along."

Congress is due to adjourn today, having remained in session beyond its original deadline in order to complete work on various money bills. The tax bill could be debated today if there are enough votes to table it. But as the Republicans are slowly coaxed into supporting discussions of the Democratic-sponsored bill, so a number of Democrats have begun to lose interest. The loss of their votes could still prevent the bill reaching the floor of the house.

The Republicans say they still favour tax reform, but insist the present bill by Mr Dan Rostenkowski, the Democrat chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, distorts the original Reagan proposals and would hurt economic growth by increasing taxes to business and not help middle-income families.

Lorry men snarl up roads in pay protest

Driebergen, Netherlands (AP) - Dutch lorry drivers closed all main border crossing points to truck traffic and caused chaos at important junctions throughout the country over a pay dispute, police said.

Articulated lorries blocked about 25 to 30 border crossings with West Germany and Belgium, where long lines of traffic built up. There were similar blockades at 17 main junctions throughout The Netherlands, and police advised commuters to travel by rail. Union leaders said the action would go on until employers made a better offer.

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Britons held in drug round-up

Cairo (Reuters) - In a crackdown on drug use, Egypt has charged three 20-year-old Britons with possessing narcotics.

British Embassy officials said Stephen Cannon, from Macclesfield, Cheshire, had pleaded guilty to possessing hashish and marijuana, while Nicholas Duncanson and John Duncanson, both Londoners, had denied possessing LSD. If convicted, they face long prison terms.

'Rambo' marries

Los Angeles (Reuters) Sylvester Stallone, of the *Rocky* and *Rambo* films, married the Danish actress Brigitte Nielsen in a private ceremony here on Sunday. Friends said the bride, who at 22 is 17 years younger than Stallone, wore white tulle. It was the second marriage for both of them.

Astles claim

Stockholm (Reuters) - Libyan soldiers serving under the former Ugandan leader, Idi Amin, murdered two Swedish journalists and two West Germans in April, 1979, Mr Bob Astles, the former British aide to Amin, said in a newspaper interview published here.

Camp overrun

Wackersdoorn (Reuters) - About 2,000 riot police and frontier guards broke up an anti-nuclear camp near the Czechoslovak border and rounded up 800 demonstrators who had refused to leave the site of West Germany's first nuclear reprocessing plant.

Cash and carry

Paris (AFP) - The accountant of a big Paris supermarket handed over weekend takings of 650,000 francs (£59,000) to two uniformed men of a cash transport firm only to realize they were bogus guards when the real ones arrived five minutes later.

Party choice

Vienna (Reuters) - The Austrian Health Minister Herr Kurt Steyrer, aged 65, has resigned to devote himself full-time to next year's presidential elections, Chancellor Sinowatz announced.

Plea rejected

Washington (AP) - The US Supreme Court, clearing the way for extradition to Israel, rejected appeals by 65-year-old John Demjanuk, accused of helping to kill 900,000 Jews at the Treblinka death camp during Nazi rule, to stay in America.

Vienna bomb

Vienna (Reuters) - A home-made bomb exploded outside a house in Vienna where several Jewish families have sought refuge since the Nazis fled Austria. Residents said swastikas had often been smeared on a wall of the house.

Dee ban to go

Aldridge (Reuters) - Liberts will lift a ban on foreign journalists imposed after last month's coup attempt in time for the inauguration of President-elect Samuel Doe on January 6, a presidential spokesman said.

Strike threat

Paris (Reuters) - French air controllers plan a one-day strike on Friday at the start of the Christmas holiday period so back a claim for improved pensions.

Bauxite deal

Moscow (Reuters) - Guyana will supply the Soviet Union with bauxite for seven years under a deal to be signed in Georgetown next month, Guyanese diplomatic sources said.

Sneaky Santa

Sydney (Reuters) - A man in a Santa Claus suit was arrested and charged with theft in a department store here after he helped himself to a sackful of goods, saying they were for poor and hungry children.

Correction

Contrary to the figures in a report on December 13, EEC budget ministers were offering an additional £150 million in an overall budget of £19.5 billion compared with the £18.5 billion that the overall budget to £20.5 billion.

Basque fury at death of prisoner

From Harry Debelius Madrid

Demonstrators clashed with police in Pamplona and public transport was at a virtual standstill in San Sebastian yesterday as workers struck and Spain's Basque country tensely awaited the results of a second post-mortem examination of a suspected extremist, Mikel Zabaltza.

His disappearance three weeks ago while in police custody provoked violent demonstration in the north, and prompted questions in Parliament and from two bishops before the body was finally found.

Members of the Civil Guard found Zabaltza's handcuffed body on Sunday in the River Bidassoa, not far from where he was said to have escaped from members of the paramilitary force shortly before dawn on November 26.

Unconvinced by the findings of an examination yesterday in Pamplona which said drowning was the cause of death and which did not substantiate claims of torture, the Zabaltza family insisted on a second examination "by a recognized expert", to which the authorities agreed.

The Civil Guard, reacting to accusations by Basque sympathizers, said yesterday that it would take legal action in cases of libel and slander.

On December 8 the Bishop of San Sebastian, Mgr Jose Maria Setien, appealed from the pulpit for clarification of the case.

Other Basques rounded up at the same time as Zabaltza say they heard him screaming repeatedly.

His fiancée, Señorita Idolia Ayerbe Iribar, said she was taken into custody on the same night and that she saw him early on November 26.

The Intaxaurde Civil Guard barracks with a yellow plastic bag over his head and his hands behind his back, "probably handcuffed".

Later, she said she glimpsed "a heavy-set person like him" being carried on a stretcher through a hallway at the barracks and heard someone say: "He's in bad shape."

Saddam in Moscow for Gulf War aid

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

President Saddam Hussein of Iraq arrived in Moscow yesterday for a surprise visit his first since 1978, which was expected to involve requests for increased Soviet military and economic aid to help to continue the six-year-old Gulf War.

The trip is the first by the Iraqi leader to a non-Arab state since the costly conflict with Iran started in September 1980. President Saddam's visit comes at an important time for Kremlin policy in the Middle East.

Under Mr Gorbachov, Moscow is working to regain a voice in the region through an international peace conference, and has increased private contacts with Israel.

Western observers note that the trip coincides with a recent upsurge in the fighting and reports that Iran which receives backing from Syria, the Krem-

lin's staunch ally, is planning a new ground offensive.

With France, the Soviet Union is a leading arms supplier to Iraq. The Soviet Union resumed its sales in 1983 after relations with Iran had soured over the suppression of the Iranian Communist Party and the expulsion from Tehran of 18 Soviet diplomats on subversion charges.

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Attack on supertanker limits Iran oil shuttle

Bahrain (Reuters) - A

Cypriot-registered supertanker, the Vulcan, limped yesterday to Iran's Sirri Island off terminal in the southern Gulf after having been hit by an Iraqi air attack.

Shipping sources said that the vessel, of 162,029 gross tonnes and part of a shuttle between Sirri and the main Kharg Island terminal in the northern Gulf, was hit in the stern by a missile. A blaze was extinguished and there were no reports of casualties.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman said on Saturday that Iraqi planes had scored "an accurate and effective" hit on a ship off the Iranian coast the previous evening. It is not known if the Vulcan was carrying a full cargo of oil.

The Vulcan was the fourth casualty since December 7, and shipping sources said that crude deliveries from Kharg to Sirri face serious delays with four of the six or seven tankers out of action.

Iran established the makeshift offshore export terminal at Sirri, outside the presumed range of Iraqi jets, in February.

● ORLANDO, Florida: A federal jury yesterday convicted two defendants and acquitted four others of conspiring to ship 1,140 US anti-tank missiles to Iran in violation of a 1979 law (AP reports).

Paul Carter, aged 47, described as the mastermind, and Charles St. Claire, aged 52, an arms dealer who made contact with an FBI undercover agent, will be sentenced next year.

Cameramen barred from townships

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

A group of foreign television cameramen yesterday were served with orders banning them from entering black townships in the Cape Town area for the next three months.

The orders, signed by a police lieutenant, were served on two members of an American CBS crew and three representatives of World Television News in their personal capacities after they were detained in Cape Town's Guguletu township and taken to a police station.

Contravention of the orders could result in a fine of up to 300 rand (£130), six months' imprisonment or both.

Last month the Government imposed a black-out on media coverage of unrest in areas where the state of emergency had been imposed - which include Cape Town's black townships - but television crews have taken the view that they have a right to enter them when they are quiet.

Television networks fear the issuing of banning orders against individual cameramen is a prelude to action by the authorities to keep them out of the townships altogether.

In Johannesburg yesterday, Mr Brian Tilley, a freelance cameraman working for Dutch television, whose leg was broken in Mamelodi township outside Pretoria during a confrontation between police and newsmen at the weekend, said X-ray films of his leg showed two fragments of shotgun pellets near the break.

Police have made no comment on the incident.

Police frustrate Walesa Shipyard march blocked

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Zomo riot police blocked a march of Solidarity supporters to the shipyard gates in Gdansk yesterday, but allowed the union leader, Mr Lech Walesa, to lay flowers and commemorate Polish workers shot by the authorities 15 years ago.

Mr Walesa was clearly disappointed. He had hoped that the march from the parish church of St Brygida's would merge with the shipyard workers leaving after the morning shift. The towering three steel and concrete crosses marking the 1970 shootings are next to the shipyard gates.

Instead, the Zomo, in helmets, and with shields and batons at the ready, cordoned off the area and let through only Mr Walesa and two aides. Most of the workers leaving the yards did not join the Solidarity leader as he stood in prayer.

Solidarity seems to have decided that the time has passed for huge, difficult-to-mobilize street demonstrations. The strategy now is to concentrate

on organizing opposition in factories and schools. The union has also found, to its own surprise, a sympathetic voice in parliament. Solidarity opposed recent parliamentary elections as sham democratic gestures.

But, as emerges from the minutes of a recent parliamentary session, at least one of the non-communist deputies is prepared to voice support not only for Solidarity but also to break other taboos.

The duty is Professor Ryszard Bender, a historian from the Catholic University of Lublin. The speech has not been published in official newspapers but the Polish equivalent of Hansard is obliged to print the speeches uncensored. Among the points he raised were:

● He hoped Parliament would start to "appreciate the importance of the values contributed by Solidarity and would ensure that they were reflected as far as possible in social practice." I do not need to prove how much

energy Solidarity released in society. Nor do I have to prove that its ideals are still held dear.

● Parliament should head the call of the church and free political prisoners, including five students arrested from his own university.

● The Government should recognize the right of the church to intervene on behalf of political prisoners.

● Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, was officially of "cheerful optimism". "God be with him. Perhaps he can do no better. What I consider, especially harmful though, is the fact that Mr Minister Urban chooses to lecture the Roman Catholic Church in Poland about what forms of pastoral work are appropriate."

● He criticized the appointment of a youth minister. Many young people were "ardent believers", he said, and he hoped that the minister, with God's help, would take that into account.

EEC hones the fine print of reform

From Richard Owen, Brussels

European Foreign Ministers yesterday got down to the fine print of the EEC reforms adopted at the Luxembourg summit two weeks ago, with Italy trying to nudge the agreed Treaty of Rome revisions towards a more radical interpretation and Denmark tentatively holding the line against further expansion of reforms which it says already go too far.

Britain, in common with France and West Germany, the other members of the EEC, "big three", said it stuck by the texts formulated at the summit after two days of debate. But some "technical touching" might be possible to try to satisfy more ardent reformers, particularly over the powers of the European Parliament at Strasbourg.

The question of the Parliament is crucial to Italy, which has made ratification of the Luxembourg package conditional on its acceptability to Strasbourg.

The Parliament said last week that the reforms were inadequate, but reserved its final position until matters had been "clarified" by the Foreign Ministers, who ended their two-day session today.

The summit offered the Parliament a "second reading" of legislation, after which the Council of Ministers would still have the last word by unanimous vote.

The reformers want to see this strengthened by putting a time limit of three months on the council's final decision, and by laying down that if the council cannot agree the Parliament's version will prevail.

Last night Italy appeared to be backing down from this by insisting only that any rejected parliamentary amendments should not be the less be still "taken into account" by the council.

The Foreign Ministers, who

seemed to be in almost continuous session on the reforms in the run-up to the summit, do not intend to engage in endless textual analysis now the summit is over, council sources said.

On the other hand if either Denmark or Italy refuses outright to ratify the package, the whole Luxembourg process will have been in vain.

The agreed abolition of trade barriers as Europe moves towards a complete internal market by 1992 is also causing tensions between East and West. Germany is maintaining its

reserved position on the harmonization of professional qualifications; France is unwilling to allow majority voting on the liberalization of air and sea transport; and Britain is still set firmly against new treaty provisions on employment, which Mrs Margaret Thatcher says run counter to British-sponsored passages reducing the burden of EEC controls over small businesses.

A further post-Luxembourg complication arises over continuing pressure from France, Italy and Holland for an overall Act of European Union, enshrining both the treaty revisions and the new treaty on a joint foreign policy. Denmark says any such umbrella or *chapeau*, as it is known in council circles, could sink any chance of ratification by Copenhagen once and for all.

In a parallel meeting, fisheries ministers yesterday began a two and possibly three-day effort to put the seal on EEC fisheries policy before next year, when Spain and Portugal, both of whom have strong fishing interests, join the Community.

The talks could founder over British objections to proposed reductions in cod and mackerel quotas in the North Sea and off the west coast of Scotland, even though these cuts are offset by a small rise in herring stocks.

Italy appears to back down on power of Parliament

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Timber workers killed in ambush

From Keith Dalton Manila

Muslim rebels killed 16 people and wounded 35 others in an ambush yesterday on a lorry convoy carrying workers to a southern Philippines logging camp.

The state-run Philippine News Agency quoted witnesses as saying that about 300 heavily armed rebels of the muslim

secessionist force, the Moro National Liberation Front, attacked the convoy near a mountain town of Muna in Lanao del Norte province.

Several hundred workers were being driven through forest lands escorted by an armoured personnel carrier and members of the local civilian militia when they were attacked.

The vehicles were sprayed with automatic fire, and grenade launchers were used. A survivor, Mr Domingo Renuya, aged 19, told the news agency. The soldiers returned the fire until the rebels withdrew 30 minutes later.

Most of the dead were civilians, although the agency said some militiamen and soldiers were killed.

Moon back to an ecstatic welcome

From David Watts, Seoul

Chanting *Banzai* in a floodlit Olympic stadium, 30,000 followers of the Rev Sun Myung Moon celebrated the return of their leader to South Korea last night at the end of his 15 month jail term in the United States.

Thousands of flags waved from the massed ranks of his disciples as Mr Moon and his wife Hak Ja-Ja, in pale blue traditional Korean dress, arrived to a carefully orchestrated welcome in front of numerous guests. They included three former presidents of Colombia and two former presidents of Costa Rica marking Mr Moon's recent establishment of the Association for the Unification of Latin America.

His conservative and religious supporters from the US included Congressman Marvin Dymally. The Japanese Prime Minister sent a message of support and a group of Diet members from the Liberal Democratic Party.

But notable for its absence was any kind of senior representative from the government of South Korea.

Above and behind the dais a large slogan caught the militant mood of the meeting: "Wel-

come Rev Sun Myung Moon on your victorious homecoming."

Across the entrance gate in the freezing mist of Seoul hung the official title of the gathering, "The International Federation for Victory over Communism Rally for Determination of National Security."

In fact the 65-year-old leader of the Unification Church looked well and just as chubby as before he started serving his jail term for tax evasion in Danbury federal prison.

But the passage of time has clearly done nothing to assuage the anger of his followers and other religious leaders who feel that he was jailed on a technicality.

"His imprisonment shows he was racially and religiously discriminated against in the United States. The Rev Moon created and founded a very unique religion and personally I think he went to prison because of those activities," said the president of the Unification Church, Mr Yung Suk Choi, the first speaker in three-and-a-half hours of speed-speaking.

But the criticism of the US was mild compared to the purple passages of anti-commu-



Mr Moon: "saintly patron for God and good"

Nobusuke Kishi has interceded on Mr Moon's behalf with President Reagan.

Mr Nakasone had telephoned the President because of Mr Moon's status as an international leader while Mr Kishi, a supporter of the Unification Church in Japan, had written to the President three times.

Mr Moon spoke for the last half hour, haranguing his listeners on his vision of Korea as the country chosen by God as the encapsulation of the world's problems in the confrontation across the 38th parallel of Judeo-Christian versus communist beliefs and as the vehicle for their solution.

The Korean Government, in contrast to the Japanese, has taken a low profile throughout the return of Mr Moon.

The Seoul Government appears to have been taken by surprise by the size and the scale of foreign representation at the homecoming. Belatedly trying to take advantage of the presence of such distinguished figures from Latin America they invited them to a dinner - without their wives. That did not suit the Latin guests, who politely refused.

alist rhetoric the extravagant praise of Mr Moon as "our saintly patron for God and good" as a creator of the "most outstanding anti-communist religious figure this century".

The president of the International Federation for the Victory over Communism in Japan, Mr Osami Kuboki who read a message of support for the rally from Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, said both he and the former Prime Minister Mr

Lange demands guarantees to free jailed French agents

From Richard Long
Wellington

New Zealand gave its first indication yesterday that it might consider freeing the two French secret service agents jailed after the Greenpeace bombing if it could be guaranteed that they would serve out their sentences in a penal institution in France.

New Zealand's Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, said: "I would want to know that there were guarantees and they were going to be imprisoned."

He repeated that the New Zealand Government would not consider the "release to freedom" of the agents, Dominique Fric and Alain Mazat, who were jailed for 10 years for their part in the bombing of the protest ship Rainbow Warrior.

Mr Lange refused to give any information about repatriation negotiations between New Zealand and France in New York, except to say that they had been adjourned at the weekend until the New Year.

Asked about the comments of the French Minister for External Relations, M. Roland Dumas, that governmental level negotiations were taking place for the release of the agents, he said the French had again raised it at the repatriation talks.

"Of course they have raised it," Mr Lange said, but indicated that the suggestion was not being discussed.

He would take a "realistic look" at any arrangement to

Greenpeace off to Antarctic

Sydney: Greenpeace, the 191st ecological ship, left here yesterday for Antarctica despite the worst ice conditions in 15 years and criticism that it is ill-prepared for its mission to declare the continent a world park (AP reports).

The organization plans to establish a base camp in the Ross Dependency, which is controlled by New Zealand, to monitor its use by the 18 Antarctic Treaty nations.

"Our task is to prevent Antarctica from becoming yet another wilderness despoiled by greed and insensitivity," a spokesman, Mr Peter Williams, said.

Greenpeace fears that colonization and mineral exploitation could make it the site of military conflict.

release them to a French prison, but would require guarantees.

Mr Lange declined to comment on the size of damages being sought from Paris, although in an interview published before the resumption of the talks a week ago he agreed that between NZ\$15 million and 20 million (about £5.5-7.5 million) was a rough estimate.

That answer, quoted by some news agencies, was an announcement from Wellington, brought the response from M. Dumas that the claim was ridiculous.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

S Korea: Lee Tae-bok

By Caroline Moorehead

The owner of a small publishing house in Seoul, Lee Tae-bok, is being held in solitary confinement in Taejeon prison.

He is in the fifth year of a 20-year sentence, charged with publishing "pro-communist books" and "organizing groups of students and workers to foment rebellion in preparation for a communist revolution."

His translations include works by Herbert Marcuse and Christopher Hill.

Friends fear for his health. During his trial before Seoul District Criminal Court, he and 25 co-defendants testified that they had all been tortured under interrogation.

Mr Lee said he had been stripped, tied to a board and beaten; he had been tortured with electric shocks and beaten on the soles of his feet until he agreed to sign a statement prepared by the authorities.

It is believed that he has not recovered from the torture. He has chronic back ache and reports say that he has a testicular infection, despite hospital examinations, he is not thought to be receiving adequate medical attention.

Lee Tae-bok: health fear

Poll boost for Lisbon Government

From Martina de la Cal
Lisbon

The clear winner in Portugal's municipal elections on Sunday was the centre-right Social Democrat Party of the Prime Minister, Professor Cavaco Silva.

A clear loser was President Eanes' Democratic Renewal Party.

In the election of mayors and 20,000 other officials in the 305 municipalities, results yesterday from 273 areas gave the Social Democrats 34.6 per cent of the vote (137 mayors), the Socialists 27.2 per cent (72 mayors), the Communists 19 per cent (45 mayors), the Christian Democrats 10 per cent, and the Democratic Renewal Party 4.7 per cent (three mayors).

The turnout was a record low, with only 64 per cent of those eligible voting.

The Social Democrats have gained in strength since the October 6 parliamentary election, in which they came in first with 30 per cent and defeated the Socialists of the former prime minister, Dr Mario Soares.

They lost 17 per cent of their votes to the new Democratic Renewal Party, and the Social Democrats took power with a minority government.

The poor weekend showing by the Democratic Renewal Party may have been due to the fact that neither the President nor his wife, Senhora Manuela Eanes, campaigned on its behalf.

In the 115 municipalities it contested the President's party lost back to the Socialists 70 per cent of the votes obtained in October.

The Communists held their own against a united assault by the Social Democrats and the Socialists to dislodge them from power in agrarian reform lands and the industrial belt around Lisbon.

Leading article, page 11

Yesterday's man back in action

Ben Bella challenges the Algerian establishment

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Two leaders of Algeria's war of independence from France stepped out of the history books yesterday to launch a "united front" opposed to the Algerian Government led by President Chadli Benjedid.

The two were Mr Ahmed Ben Bella and Mr Ait Ahmed Hocine, founder members of the revolutionary council of the National Liberation Front (FLN) which spearheaded the bloody eight-year struggle against French rule.

Mr Ben Bella, whose name became a symbol of anti-colonialism during the 1950s and 1960s, went on to become the first president of Algeria after independence. However, he was overthrown in a military coup in 1965 and spent the next 15 years in prison or under house arrest.

He was freed in 1980 and has spent the last five years in exile in Europe, currently in Switzerland, where he has been planning the establishment of an opposition party which would bring political pluralism to what is now a one-party state.

Mr Ben Bella, who will be 69 on Christmas Day, emphasised that the "front" he is setting up with Mr Ait Ahmed is not a political party but simply a programme around which he hopes opponents of the present Algerian Government will rally.

The press conference was held in London because Britain was the only country prepared to permit it. France, which would have been the obvious venue, given its historic links with Algeria and the presence of a large expatriate Algerian population there, clearly did not want to do anything to complicate its already difficult relations with its former territory.

Mr Ait Ahmed emphasised, however, that their presence in London did not mean their initiative had official British support. Indeed, he conceded that they did not have the backing of any government or international organization.

Galleries in New York

Taste and true enterprise in celebrating the past

As New York's reputation as a forcing-ground for exciting new artistic talent ineluctably fades, not even the most single-minded I-Love-New Yorker nowadays is likely to claim that you will find wonders at every turn in the left-hand of SoHo, NoHo and such - the city's standing as an Establishment showcase is over and over confirmed and increased. It helps, of course, that the major public museums and galleries have the money to do it, but taste and true enterprise are not lacking either in New York's celebrations of the artistic past, whether that of America or that of the world at large. One could grieve over the decadence implied by such a situation, and some locals do. But nothing is permanent, least of all in New York, and until the wind changes it would be ungrateful to harp too much on the paucity of good new art and fail to enjoy the splendours of the rest.

At present there is not so much emphasis on the blockbuster show. The only one which looks seriously like a contender, Jackson Pollock's *The Prunella Collection*, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art until May 1, is not in fact presented that way. True, it has the usual massive catalogue and its own gift-shop full of reproductions and scarves and ties and records and books connected with or derived from the show, but it is entered without ceremony on general admission to the museum and therefore attracts only sensible crowds, so that its major works can be comfortably seen.

In any case, many of them are so large that they would rear well over the heads of any crowd, however dense: particularly the Rubenses, such as the vast *Assumption of the Virgin* and the series of six narrative paintings and two decorative pieces devoted to the life and patriotic works of the Roman consul Decimus Mus, which occupy the whole of one of the Met's larger galleries. For those whose taste goes less towards

the monumental there are some admirable portraits by Rubens and Van Dyck and fine earlier German and Netherlandish works like the *St Eustace* by Lucas Cranach the Elder and the *Portrait of a Canon* by Quentin Massys. Not to mention the Liechtensteins' Golden Carriage of 1738, decorated by Boucher's workshop, and more imposing sculptures (by Giovanni Bologna and others) than you could shake a guidephone at.

So much grandeur and aristocratic hauteur is endearing: the Liechtenstein collections are easy to admire, but hard to warm to. On the whole it is a relief to come down a bit to the Metropolitan's more domestic shows of Augustus Saint-Gaudens (until January 26) and John Frederick Kensett (until January 19). Though with Saint-Gaudens the domestic scale is only relative: looking at the gigantic sculptured mantelpiece for the Cornelius Vanderbilt II House (1881-83), for instance, one cannot but reflect that, if the Vanderbilts were not Liechtensteins, they were certainly trying. In the main, though, Saint-Gaudens is represented with smaller portrait panels, reduced versions of such inescapable works as the *Diana* and the *Standing Lincoln*, and, rather touching, a selection of the cameos with which he began his sculptural career at the age of 13. The images are so clear and memorable, and yet there is finally something rather anemic about the show, accurately reflecting, I think, something rather anemic about the artist.

John Frederick Kensett, one of the founders of the Hudson River School of landscape painting and leading Luminist, is not anemic, but it needs a rather special knowledge of his career in mid-nineteenth-century American art to respond fully to his quietly glowing scenes of sea and river. All the same, even at that date the effect is specifically and recognizably American.

A continuing American strain

in landscape response can be found almost a century later in the work of Ralston Crawford, featured in a valuable reassessment at the Whitney Museum (until February 2). Crawford is at once a singular and an exemplary figure. He began in the Thirties as one of the group of American painters, known as Precisionists, who found inspiration in the bold, simple, almost abstract shapes of industrial buildings and city rooftops; he was also an excellent photographer, often photographing much the same scenes as he painted. But whereas Sheeler and Demuth stuck at that, Crawford carried it all a few logical steps further, into partial and then total abstraction. Even the paintings done just before his death in 1978 retain "representational" titles, and walking round the show one can see by just what steps the process of abstraction from observed reality was achieved. In his own very different way, Crawford followed much the same solitary path as Pissarro and Moinihan in Britain, and suffered misunderstanding and rejection because of it. Sad that reinstatement comes only some years after his death.

The Whitney's other important winter show, *High Styles: Twentieth-Century American Design* (until February 16), is by comparison very disappointing. A lot of the problem has to do with hype: promised the "first comprehensive assessment of the subject", we are fobbed off with quite a small show picking one or two examples of each notable trend in an apparently arbitrary fashion, so as to make no points clearly except to those who can pick up the merest allusion. What appears to be a jumble of East and West Coast styles, modernist and revivalist, does in fact constitute the skeleton of an interesting and valid show, but to make its points properly it would need to be at least three times the size, and have a much less flighty and decorative catalogue.

Dance

Rare delicacy and phrasing

It must have been gratifying for London City Ballet and its royal patron, the Princess of Wales, that by far the most brilliant individual performance in its fund-raising gala at Sadler's Wells on Sunday came from the company's own leading dancer, Marian St. Claire, in the *Walpurgis Night pas de deux*. The speed, delicacy, lightness and musical phrasing of her dancing were such as we do not often see nowadays. Her pre-eminence looked effortlessly achieved in spite of competition from a number of guests, notable among whom were Matz Skog as her partner, Peter Jacobsson in the *Don Quixote pas de deux* and Marjorie Lane, Donald MacLeary and Wayne Sleep in various bits of light-hearted nonsense.

The gala ended, for me, a busy and varied weekend of ballet that had begun on Friday with two further first appearances in leading roles in the Royal Ballet's new *Giselle*. Fiona Chadwick, although showing some hesitancy and incurring one or two contretemps, made a sweetly demure heroine, and Ashley Page gave a sympathetic account of Hilarion, but I am still hoping for an interpretation that is going to illuminate and transfigure a production which, though mainly sound, is not yet exciting.

The highlight of my weekend was a couple of what I might, without disrespect, call bargain basement premieres by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet at the Congress Theatre, Eastbourne. Susan Crow and Graham Lustig are both soloists in the company who have worked hard at choreography in their own time. Their reward was to be allowed to mount a short ballet each with a production budget of only £1,000. Other recent productions have cost from 10 to almost 300 times as much.

The new works are enjoyable on all of proportion to their cost. Both choreographers have chosen attractive and unfamiliar music. The Concertino for harpsichord and string orchestra by the English composer Walter Leigh, who died in action at Tobruk in 1942, is the basis of Lustig's *Caught in Time*. Its Handel style has

inspired patterns in which movement is tossed from one dancer to another among a cast of nine, most of whom have brief solo opportunities.

There is both humour and a touch of mystery in Lustig's abstract choreography. Crow's *Track and Field* is also lively and entertaining, taking as its motif a combination of ancient and modern sports - "Young Spartans" as envisaged by Pegas in a well-known painting, and latter-day runners and athletes. Tim Shortall's designs neatly combine the old and new themes.

This work's energy is strongly underpinned by the Rounds for string orchestra composed by David Diamond (an American, born 1915) in response to a commission from Dimitri

John Percival

Stephen Pettitt



The lithograph as central statement of Toulouse-Lautrec's career: *Woman at the Tub - The Tub* (1896)

Not surprisingly, the Cooper-Hewitt does this sort of thing much better, since that is its primary business: its current survey shows, *The Modern Spirit: Glass from Finland* (until January 5) and *The Golden Eye* (until February 23), which explores the cross-fertilization between Indian art and Western design in recent years, are both modest and clearly circumscribed in their aims and do exactly what they set out to do.

That is what all worthwhile exhibitions should do for us: show us things we do not know or establish hitherto unseen connections among things we do. Both these requirements are admirably fulfilled in the almost adjacent Jewish Museum's *The Circle of Montparnasse* (until February 2), which takes as its subject the astonishing assemblage of Jewish artists in Paris between 1905 and 1945. Just that it does not try in advance to force them all into some construct of artistic Jewishness, but brings together characteristic works and stands back to

see, and let us see, what emerges.

Very illuminating the result is, too. It juxtaposes artists like Chagall, Soutine, Lipchitz, Kisling and Mané-Katz, whom one immediately thinks of as Jewish, along with Modigliani and Pascin, whose Jewishness one knows but tends to forget, and others, like Marcoussis, Henri Hayden and Sonia Delaunay, whose religious and ethnic affiliations seldom if ever cross the mind. Whether the show brings us any nearer to defining a specific Jewish strain in art I am not sure, but it and its information-packed catalogue certainly offer much food for thought and it is a great pleasure to encounter such lesser-known artists as the vigorous sculptor Chana Orloff and Marcovna, whose retrospective I was recently admiring in Paris.

The Museum of Modern Art has two big shows which work in the same way: *Contrasts of Form* (until January 7) and *Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec* (until January 26). The first collects more than 150 works

illustrating the development, and persistence, of geometric abstract art from 1910 up to date. Almost no one of any importance is omitted and the concentration on just this one type of abstractionism pays dividends in the clarity with which the story is told and the points are made just from what is on the walls, with no need for elaborate verbal explanations.

The Lautrec show also manages, against all odds, to say something new about its almost over-familiar subject, by selecting his lithographic work as the central statement of his career and showing almost all of it, with paintings and drawings in support. The thesis may under-value the paintings, but it shakes up our received assumptions in a very salutary fashion and, if combined in the memory with the Chicago Art Institute's great show of the paintings six years ago, offers the most comprehensive acquaintance with Lautrec we are ever likely to have while scarcely taking the edge off our appetite.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts

Right off Broadway

LPO/Lopez-Cobos

Festival Hall

That's Entertainment! Or so we were strenuously persuaded on Sunday night. Broadway, in fact, never seemed further away: after a swirlingly stylish arrangement of the Schwartz/Dietz number by the London Philharmonic's principal horn, Richard Bissill, we were soon back to the concrete and clay.

Neither the programming nor the personnel seemed calculated to do more than look good on a poster. Ali McGraw, silkily narrating *Peter and the Wolf*, got her fair share of vulpine whistles. But Andrei Gavrilov had injured his right hand, so the Prokofiev concerto which would have given some sense of cohesion to the evening was replaced by Ravel's *Concerto in D* for left hand. Gavrilov and Jesus Lopez-Cobos, conducting, made its swaggering sarabande seem not a million miles away from the evening's overture. But it was a performance of hard, neat outlines, glitzy rhythms and

only precious, short moments of Gavrilov's most lucid lyricism.

Then came Andrew Lloyd-Webber's *Requiem*. Freed from its New York razzmatazz, its topical consecration, it could at last stand alone to make its case as a secular repertoire piece. And it was pretty hard work. The problem is not, after all, one of yardsticks. *Cats*, *Starlight Express*, *Faure* and *Verdi* are irrelevant. *Stainer and Oliver* to *Calvary* are the true relations of this late reincarnation of Victorian religiosity. It is simply that there is too little to measure.

The best of ideas strike once, and die; the worst develop a lurid tarnish. The time Arthur Davies and Paul Miles-Kingston made a valiant attempt to waken their vocal lines from rigor mortis; Sarah Brightman, ably supported by the London Philharmonic Chorus, courageously wrenched the voice out of her tiny body once again; and the LPO played with generous commitment.

Hilary Finch

Philharmonia/Preston

Festival Hall

Questions of authenticity in pre-classical music seemingly do not resolve themselves any more easily than they ever have done in a symphony-orchestra context. Confronted with a large Philharmonia string section for *Messiah*, Simon Preston had shrewdly decided on horses for courses, using the whole apparatus for the choruses and various progressively smaller permutations for the arias. In fact it turned out that the full-size section played with exemplary cleanliness and precision throughout, thus vindicating the large-scale approach; and at the other end of the spectrum even a continuo bass-line of just two cellos and one double-bass had no problems filling the ample spaces of the Festival Hall. So where does that leave us?

Perhaps with the conclusion that - with Handel anyway - such matters count for much less than is often thought, as long as the right things are going on musically. In this performance, by and large, they were, in spite of the odd post-Handelian stylistic accretion; Preston's tempi were on the deliberate side but never dragged, and the right kind of un-bloated grandeur was much in evidence.

Handel's ceaselessly inspired music was unfolded pleasurably rather than thrillingly, until Anne Collins's wonderful

account of "He was despised" - sustained with grave contralto tone, and with some lovely ornamentation in the *de capo* section - single-handedly seemed to galvanize the whole performance into life. Some hitherto rather lacklustre solo singing from Helen Donath, Anthony Rolfs Johnson and John Tomlinson improved dramatically. The Philharmonia Chorus, though also large in number, sang with remarkable clarity throughout - excellent sopranos and altos, for instance, in "And He shall purify". Incidentally, full marks for courage to those determined individuals of the audience who remained proudly standing throughout the "Hallelujah" chorus - another area of performance practice which is authentic in spirit if not in letter!

Malcolm Hayes

Open rehearsals

London Sinfonietta/Knuussen

EMI Abbey Road

It is a salutary experience for a critic to go to a rehearsal now and then. Too often we forget how much work is involved in the preparation of a performance. Yet it is the finished result that really matters, and I am not sure that sitting in on the painstaking formative stages actually improves anything except familiarity with the notes - which is a different thing from

familiarity with the music, of course.

Admittedly in this open rehearsal, sponsored by the Society for the Promotion of New Music, the conductor, Oliver Knuussen, was at pains to explain the technical processes at work in David Saver's *relief*, a tough nut of a piece, scored for mixed wind, two double basses and percussion, in which instrumental groups insistently break free from an underlying strictly-coordinated framework.

But Saver's own note gave

the listener hints enough, I thought, and I doubt whether he heard anything in his music that he had not clearly heard in his mind before. That said, he must have been grateful for aural verification, and we were at least treated to two complete runs-through.

Nicholas Harbord is by profession a plant molecular geneticist, whatever that may mean. His song-cycle on ancient Chinese texts, *Ching Chueh*, was dealt with more satisfactorily from the audience's point of view: just two plays-through with odd technical points made by Knuussen during the first. But

the music suffers from a basic flaw, for the instruments, this time a wind and string group, often totally swamp the singer, here the valiant Rosemary Hardy, and she is required to sing in a cruelly high register for most of the time.

Yet Harbord is able to create considerable atmosphere from his plethora of notes, though it was interesting and perhaps significant that he preferred to suspend time where Saver confidently masters and manipulates it.

Stephen Pettitt

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The tragedy of schizophrenia: where the progressive vision of community care falls down

Through an open door to despair

Dennis is on remand at Arley Prison, Leeds, charged with knocking over an old woman at Leeds City Bus Station. He is a gentle but severely damaged schizophrenic whom nobody wants. He has been ill since his early twenties, when he was starting on a musical career. For 10 years he was in and out of mental hospitals on the crazy carousel of the open-door treatment policy.

He was turned out of one bed-sitter or hostel after another, eventually ending up in the Camberwell reception centre in London. He has been in court on numerous occasions for altering drug prescriptions and in one case stealing a bottle of aftershave to drink.

The present way of treating people like Dennis is to let them live in the community with the support of a network of services provided by local and health authorities. It is intended that they go once a week to the local hospital out-patients department for medication (assuming they remember the appointment), that social workers will help them with problems; a day centre and sheltered workshop will provide a social life and an occupation; and if they have no relatives to live with, they will be found a place in a flat shared with other mentally ill people, a group home, a hostel or lodgings with a caring landlady.

Does this work? Portsmouth is a model area being created on a "patchwork" system. The town will be split into five areas, each having a day centre with two crisis beds. There are 43 community psychiatric nurses, the highest number per head of population in the country. St James's, the area's main psychiatric hospital has been slimmed to 400 beds and the plan is to reduce it to about 150 for long-stay patients, mainly elderly.

Portsmouth Housing Association has only six group homes for those people with chronic mental illness. "For most ex-patients it's either homelessness, night shelters or whatever bed they can find in the private sector," says Terry Hammond, who has been involved in 30 different schemes for housing the mentally ill. "In the last few years, there's been a vast shipment of patients from the hospital who then become lost in the community. No statistics are kept and they drift from town to town."

The really sick and needy, when they leave hospital, stream to Southsea, an old-fashioned seaside resort full of cheap boarding houses. Many are now being used as homes for the mentally sick; the Department of Health and Social Security pays up to £110 a week



The forgotten illness

As mental hospitals close, Marjorie Wallace, in part two of her investigation, describes the misery of patients allowed to drift without a proper home

per person for registered accommodation and £55 unregistered. A condition of registration is that a trained nurse is available 24 hours a day.

The money is so attractive that some psychiatric nurses have left the hospital to set up lodgings. They have the advantage that they can select the least troublesome patients, even making arrangements with them before leaving the wards. There are stories of nurses "poaching" patients from one another to keep their new homes filled. "Some places are good," says Ken Preston, Portsmouth's rehabilitation officer, "but some are just institutions where there is even less for the patient to do during the day."

At least in hospital these people had some dignity

I found Michael, who is 70, living in an unregistered home in Byerly Road, Portsmouth, with 12 other ragged, grimy, elderly men, a number of them mentally ill. The house has three bedrooms and a lounge which is also used as a sleeping area. Michael shares his bedroom with three others; he has the top place on a bunk bed. The landlady, Mrs Walker, is in her seventies and talkative, but she employs a man called Peter to run the house. "You can conduct your business elsewhere," he said, exposing a tattooed arm as he threw me out.

Michael moved to the house about 10 years ago after discharge from hospital. His treatment now is a fortnightly injection administered by a community nurse. He would like to leave, but does not know how. "I'm frightened of Peter," he whispered on the doorstep.

John, an exchange nurse from a psychiatric hospital, applied for transfer to become a community nurse. He is disillusioned by what he has seen but is afraid to talk. "I am appalled by the places I have to

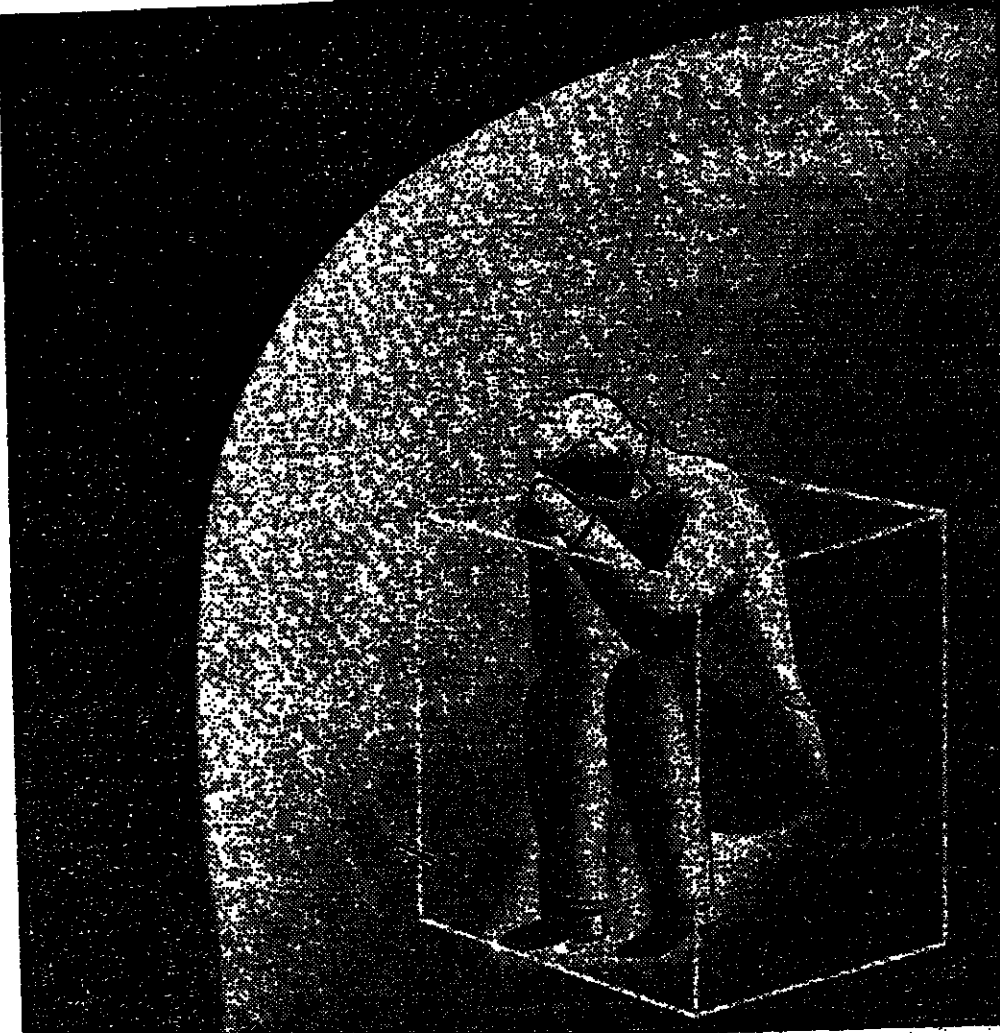
visit," he says. "At least in hospital these people had some dignity and something to do. These places are so filthy and lonely. Last weekend I took a meal to an elderly mentally ill woman. She didn't have a piece of cutlery to eat it with. I had to borrow from next door. The people in charge don't want to hear these stories. Everybody wants to believe that community care is progressive."

Last year the local authority investigated Southsea boarding houses. So far, out of 90 houses inspected by the environmental health officer, 76 have failed to fulfil the minimum standards for houses in multiple occupation and 28 have been recommended for prosecution.

In large cities, which have an irresistible attraction for schizophrenics yet no money to provide facilities, the situation is worse. The Moseley district of Birmingham is a gathering place for ex-patients. At the Kinross centre they can drop in for tea during the day, but on Sundays there is nowhere to go. "The level of after care for patients is non-existent," says Derek Hall, who runs the centre. "You can see some of them going back and forward across the road counting their steps. They've nothing else to do. It's very sad."

He is also concerned about the bed and breakfast houses where ex-patients are sent. Some of these are deplorable. The police had to rescue an old man who had been locked up all weekend by his landlady. He had not been fed from Friday to Monday though the DHSS pays for him to have a meal a day. The landlady controlled his benefit book. The social services could do nothing as it was a private home and they have no right of entry. "I talked to two young men, one who still lived there and one who had left. They confirmed the stories but when I went there the door was shut in my face."

A few streets away Mrs Violet Harley runs the Clare Hotel for 36 ex-mental patients, many severely dependent. She charges £70 a week but she has trained staff and looks after her guests carefully. She is worried about bed and breakfast homes such



as the one described above. "This sort of work is wide open to abuse and can attract the wrong people. There was one woman I fetched from prison and looked after at my hotel. She stole and lied and I asked her to leave. She immediately set up her own home for the mentally ill."

The situation is worse in London. In Greater London in 1981 23,972 people were discharged from mental hospitals; only 417 were taken into local authority residential care. Seven London boroughs do not have a home or hostel to care for the mentally ill.

Everybody in the field agrees that community care has not worked. Most blame lack of funding and bridging finance (to look after a mental patient in the community is more expensive than in hospital); others say that the concept did not take account of a proportion of patients who would never find a welcome in the outside world. The old mental hospitals are due to disappear, the buildings and land are being sold, but the alternatives promised in government white papers have for the most part, not been built.

Dr Rosalind Furlong, consultant psychiatrist at Friern Hospital, London, says: "The danger is that the hospital will discharge a patient into the community without knowing if he is able to cope. Then if he is thrown out of every hostel or lodgings, there will be nowhere for him to return. The hospital beds will be closed and the land turned into housing estates. It looks a better deal for the patient initially, but in fact he has far fewer rights and less security than he did before."

The National Association for Mental Health (Mind), the pressure group which has been in the forefront in promoting

the hospital closures, now admits something is wrong. "There is a looming crisis," says Christopher Heginbotham, Director of Mind. "What is happening is a disaster. There is very little community care provided. Nowhere is there a comprehensive service reflecting our objectives to help people rebuild their lives."

So where are the missing patients? Most will have joined or tried to join their parents at home. Some will be in lodgings and some are wandering the streets and sleeping rough. The police are disturbed by the numbers they take to hospital who are then turned away. "It's a race as to who gets back to the station, the patient or us. But where can he go? A police cell is not the right place for a sick person. There was a recent case where seven hospitals serving the London area refused to accept a violent young man," says Inspector Peter Dowse, who is responsible for the policy adopted by the Metropolitan Police towards the mentally ill.

This sort of work can attract the wrong people

"I started to talk to some of these people in the streets," says Dr Malcolm Weller, consultant psychiatrist at three North London hospitals. "I found almost all of them had fallen out of any kind of medical care. The new policies have created a large group of mentally ill people who are also physically ill, scraping out dustbins and sleeping on park benches. However, inadequate hospital treatment is it is better than this." Inevitably, many end up in prison. "While they're closing 30 hospitals, they're

planning to build 14 new prisons", says Dr Malcolm Weller.

As the pressure on hospitals continues, they are being forced to discharge patients without any provision. Gladys is due to leave the Royal Free in London where she has been acutely ill after a post-natal breakdown. On learning that she was suffering from schizophrenia, the father of her baby gave it to a relative and refused to take Gladys back. "We can get no place for her until she is proved technically 'vulnerable homeless'," says Joy Pappenheim, the social worker involved. So Gladys, depressed and afraid, will leave the wards to join the homeless persons' queue. If she ever leaves the lodgings offered, however unsuitable they are, she will be "voluntary homeless" and no one will be responsible.

For some ex-patients, this prospect is too much. Michael became a schizophrenic at 23, an artist. He spent several turbulent years in and out of hospital and terrorized his family. "He used to line up the knives and point them in my direction wherever I moved," his mother recalls. "He even threatened us with an axe." He was admitted to Friern Hospital but discharged because it was no longer hospital policy to retain people who were unlikely to improve.

Six weeks later his mother heard that his body had been found in a river not far from a house where the family had lived when he was a child.

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TOMORROW

The patients who slipped through the net

Sick boy no one wanted to help

A hunched figure shuffles down the corridor of Laburnum ward, the locked area for the most disturbed patients in Napsbury Hospital, near Watford. He wanders among senile old men with stained jerseys and blank faces. His mother, Jean, stands helplessly as he crouches on the floor and looks at her with a threatening glare, his muscles tensed as though about to spring for her throat.

It is a disturbing experience and impossible to believe that this angry, emaciated creature is the sensitive, scholarly looking young man I had seen in photographs.

A young Chinese staff nurse taps him gently and asks that he speak to his mother. David gives a slow hissing sound and turns away.

At 28 David is a pathetic figure, his body twitching and shaking, possibly the result of years of medication. This locked ward is the best care he has yet received for the illness which has been destroying him and his family for 12 years.

"It was very sudden. He had taken eight O levels. He was a bright normal boy living with us, his elder brother, and two younger sisters", his mother says. "Then he began to say strange things about how he had a devil inside him telling him what to do. He would get a look of terror in his eyes, as though he were possessed. We were frightened by his expression."

David began to suffer from hallucinations and his parents took him to the doctor, and he was taken to Shirelands Psychiatric Unit at Watford.

The worst experience was the night David discharged himself from hospital, climbed a drain-pipe at his home, broke a window and began to ransack the house, taking out drawers and holding his family hostage.

"They always made us feel it was our fault," says Jean. "David refused to take his medicine and he was an in-patient and advised the family to leave him to leave home. Jean broke into tears as she recalls how he walked away, a list of charities for the homeless in his hands."

For the next year David slept in cardboard boxes under

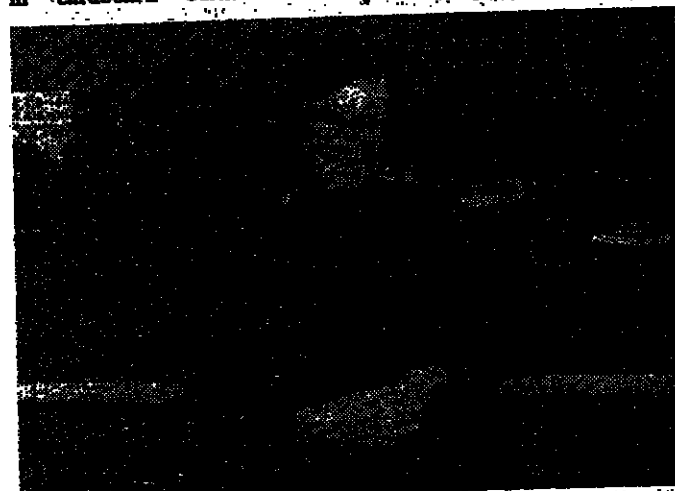
Charing Cross arches. It was 1981 and one of the coldest winters on record. In 1982 he was arrested for stealing a T-shirt, spent six weeks on remand in Brixton and appeared before Watford magistrates. His lack of care shocked Mr Edward Kennedy, the chairman of the bench. The court was told that the staff at Shirelands wing had said he needed treatment but they could not cope with him there. They also heard that although the doctor at Brixton Prison felt he was ill, he did not think he was sufficiently ill for an order to be made to keep him in hospital under the Mental Health Act.

Mr Kennedy said "It is quite irresponsible that he should be thrown out for this difference of opinion in the medical world. If he was knocked down by a bus he would get instant treatment." David was freed on bail, but yet again he had nowhere to go.

It was the Church Army that came to his rescue. When he was in an acute schizophrenic episode, an Army official took him to Shirelands Hospital near St Albans and threatened to chain himself to the railings if David was not admitted.

Eight months later he discharged himself and disappeared. Since he was a voluntary patient, the hospital was not obliged to inform anyone or alert the social services. His parents reported him missing and six weeks later they received a letter from him from Winesap Green Prison, Birmingham. He had fallen asleep on the train, ended up in Rugby, and having no cash, only a cheque from his benefits which the hospital had given him, he had stolen a 39p pork pie from the station buffet. The judge ordered that he should receive treatment in a psychiatric hospital for a minimum of six months.

"For the first time in many years I can sleep knowing that he is safe," says Jean. "He is known as the boy no one wanted to help. If I tried I was called a smothering mother, stopping him from being independent. But there was nothing I could do. He was just too ill to grow up."



David in less troubled times before illness took its grip

Chequered paths towards the big prize money

Yesterday at the headquarters of FIDE, the World Chess Federation in Lucerne, two envelopes were opened. These contained the prize money bids for the 1986 World Chess Championship between the reigning champion Garry Kasparov, and Anatoly Karpov.

Florencio Campomanes, the Filipino president of FIDE, had not been alone in expecting wildly extravagant bids of up to \$2 million from cities as diverse as Kuala Lumpur, Istanbul, Marseilles, and Belgrade.

In the event it was London and Leningrad which made offers. London, supported by the G.L.C., offered 1.8 million Swiss francs (£500,000) and Leningrad 1 million. It is now up to Campomanes to decide on the venue which he must do by January 13.

On paper, London has all the advantages, but as Kasparov is a star in both East and West and with detente in mind, it would be politic for the British Chess Federation to offer to split the coming match 12 games in London and 12 in Leningrad.

With prizes like this at stake, (spoils being divided five-eighths to the winner and three-eighths to the loser), it would take just three world title victories to catapult a champion into sterling millionaire status. But this has not always been the case. The first World Chess Champion, Wilhelm Steinitz, from Bohemia, died in penury in 1900. Even the great Alexander Alekhine went to his death penniless, in a cheap Portuguese hotel in 1946.

The man who changed all that was the mercurial American, Bobby Fischer, who single-handedly dragged chess out of its financial backwater. The first non-Soviet challenger since 1948, Fischer's match with Boris Spassky at Reykjavik in 1972, attracted a prize fund of \$50,000. This was doubled when the British financier Jim



Summit meeting: Kasparov (left) and Karpov in Moscow, 1985

Slater, hurling taunts of "chicken" added his own incentive to persuade the suddenly hesitant Fischer to come out and play.

A trend had been set, but Fischer nearly torpedoed the whole undertaking when he refused to defend his title in 1975 and, in the process, turned down the biggest purse in the history of the game. President Marcos of the Philippines offered £3 million for the winner and £2 million for the loser on condition that the match was played in Manila.

Fischer made one television appearance, in a *Bob Hope Special*, then withdrew from the match, joined Garret Armstrong's Church of God and handed over his assets of £100,000 to the church.

Anatoly Karpov took the title of World Champion by default, and Fischer went into a 13-year hibernation from which he has still not emerged. The Howard Hughes of chess, Fischer has not played a single public move

since wrenching the title from Spassky.

Financial interest was maintained in the championship matches of 1978 and 1981 when Karpov twice met the defector, Viktor Korchnoi. The prize fund increased to £200,000, but without Fischer the 1975 dream of millions hanging on one match was shattered.

But the question remained: what would happen to the purse if the world championship were between two Soviet citizens? Would the huge prizes of 1972, 1978 and 1981 survive a shift behind the Iron Curtain?

This was put to the test with the appearance of the brash young challenger, Garry Kasparov from Azerbaijan. With Kasparov facing Anatoly Karpov, the cool Muscovite champion of ten years, it was only the USSR which made a bid for their 1984 match. By then, Florencio Campomanes, the Filipino president of the World Chess Federation (FIDE) had decreed that the minimum fund for a world match would be \$300,000. But since the match was a purely internal Soviet affair, there could be no real check on whether the official and actual prize funds balanced. Authoritative rumour had it that the players were competing for 70,000 golden rouble certificates, half a century's salary for an average worker.

After Campomanes aborted that first match, international interest, aroused by the controversy, mushroomed. When bids were submitted for the 1985 rematch, set for September, London, offered a prize fund of one million Swiss francs. This was topped by Sw Fr 1,600,000

Kasparov's chance to make enormous sums will arrive if he survives the coming rematch with Karpov. Should he succeed, organizers of tournaments, manufacturers of chess computers and publishers of chess books will beat a path to him rather than Karpov.

Raymond Keene

from Marseilles. Then Campomanes took the unprecedented step of asking the Russians to match the biggest bid - which they did. Marseilles, the front-runner, had been gumped.

The notional Soviet prize was, in fact, simply the basis for a levy by FIDE on the USSR Chess Federation. The Soviets conceded, as a prime condition of holding the match, 24 per cent of the prize fund to CACDEC, the FIDE fund for developing chess countries, which is solely administered by the president.

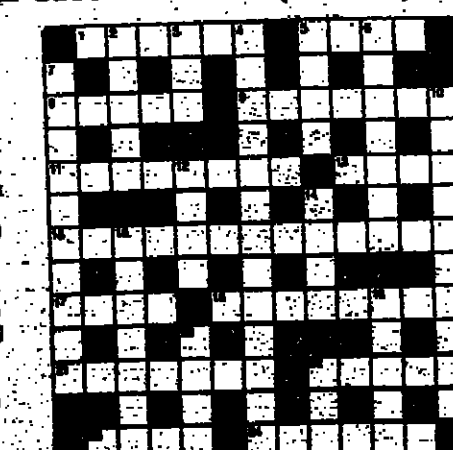
Kasparov's chance to make enormous sums will arrive if he survives the coming rematch with Karpov. Should he succeed, organizers of tournaments, manufacturers of chess computers and publishers of chess books will beat a path to him rather than Karpov.

Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 828)

- ACROSS
1 Decadent (6)
5 Ridicule (4)
8 In midst of (5)
9 Common British language (7)
11 Water tortoise (8)
13 Indigo (4)
15 Hostile opposition (15)
17 Great numbers (4)
18 Tossie (8)
21 Fundamental (7)
22 Wild dog (5)
23 Membrane sac (4)
24 Make unhappy (6)

- DOWN
2 Ground wheat (5)
3 Ovens (3)
4 Paradise (7,6)
5 Current style (4)
6 Italian wine (7)
7 Specific (10)
10 Neck hold (4,5)
12 Askew (4)
14 Lumber (4)
16 Significantly (7)
19 Unmarked 11 Sen
20 Unmarked 11 Sen
21 Unmarked 11 Sen
22 Unmarked 11 Sen
23 Unmarked 11 Sen
24 Unmarked 11 Sen



- 19 Unmarked 11 Sen
20 Unmarked 11 Sen
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23 Unmarked 11 Sen
24 Unmarked 11 Sen

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Chess has been dragged out of its financial backwater

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Transformers! Starlets in disguise

Dressing up with the glamour and glitter of the old Hollywood style has never been so popular. We have recreated three images from the silver screen for party-goers without an epic budget



At the top of every child's Christmas list is the latest toy craze, the Robot Transformer. At the flick of a switch or the twist of a knee joint, this almighty creature transforms itself magically into a sweeping spaceship armed for battle against the fiercest enemy.

But the real battle is fought by hundreds of obliging mothers trying to track down the last unsold plastic hero to fulfil the dreams of Christmas morning. It has possibly occurred to these high-street-weary women that it is they who would benefit most from instant transformation, at the wave of a mascara wand or the flick of a feather boa.

The glamour and glitter of Hollywood dressing may seem to be the stuff that dreams are made of, and a far cry from that perennial little black dress modestly adorned with pearls. Taking this season's fancy-dress feel for fashion, we have recreated three images from the silver screen. Three dresses, available now in the shops, were the inspiration for transforming fashion model Sarah O'dell into these glamorous screen heroines.

The screen image of 1930s star Mae West owed a lot to the feathers, frills and yards of shimmering fabric which poured over her generous hourglass figure. Her dresses were so tight that she had duplicates of each design, one to wear standing up and one which allowed enough fabric to enable her to drape herself across the nearest chaise-longue.

The first step was to disguise Sarah's English rose complexion. Make-up artist Clifford Brake blended out her eyebrows with foundation and painted in perfect arcs, half an inch higher, for the "come up and see me sometime" expression. Sultry shading around the eyes, a pair of sweeping false lashes, rose-

bud red pouting lips and Mae West was ready for her gown.

A figure-hugging strapless black tube dress edged in net formed a perfect S-shaped silhouette. Art deco pearls and diamanté, frivolous feathers and shimmering panne velvet were all crucial accessories to complete the image. The budget for the dress on this Hollywood production was a mere £24.99.

Marilyn Monroe was the last great star in the old tradition and provided a tailor-made clothes horse on which the imaginations of costume designers could run wild. Some of her dresses are remembered as widely as the legend herself: the daringly low see-through sheath dress designed by Orry-Kelly for *Some Like It Hot* and, of course, the mischievous halter-neck with full pleated skirt that billowed out in *The Seven Year Itch*. The reappearance of gold and silver lamé for the party season has prompted an exact copy of this dress in a rainbow of metallic colours.

Just add a pair of voluptuous shining lips, thick dark eyebrows and a mass of fly-away curls and all that's missing is a wind machine.

Gloria Swanson dressed as extravagantly in her private life as she did for the screen. She was famed for her elaborate head-dresses which have rarely been equalled for sheer Hollywood magnificence. Graham Smith, designer for Kangol hats, has paid tribute to the Hollywood Greats in his latest model collection. His lavishly wrapped gold turban forms a perfect frame for the sculpted cheek bones and sinuous thin lips which gave Glorious Gloria her elegant and authoritative air.

A shimmering lamé dress and an imperious glare provide the majesty of an Oscar, glinting in the flash of a thousand cameras.

Rebecca Tyrrel



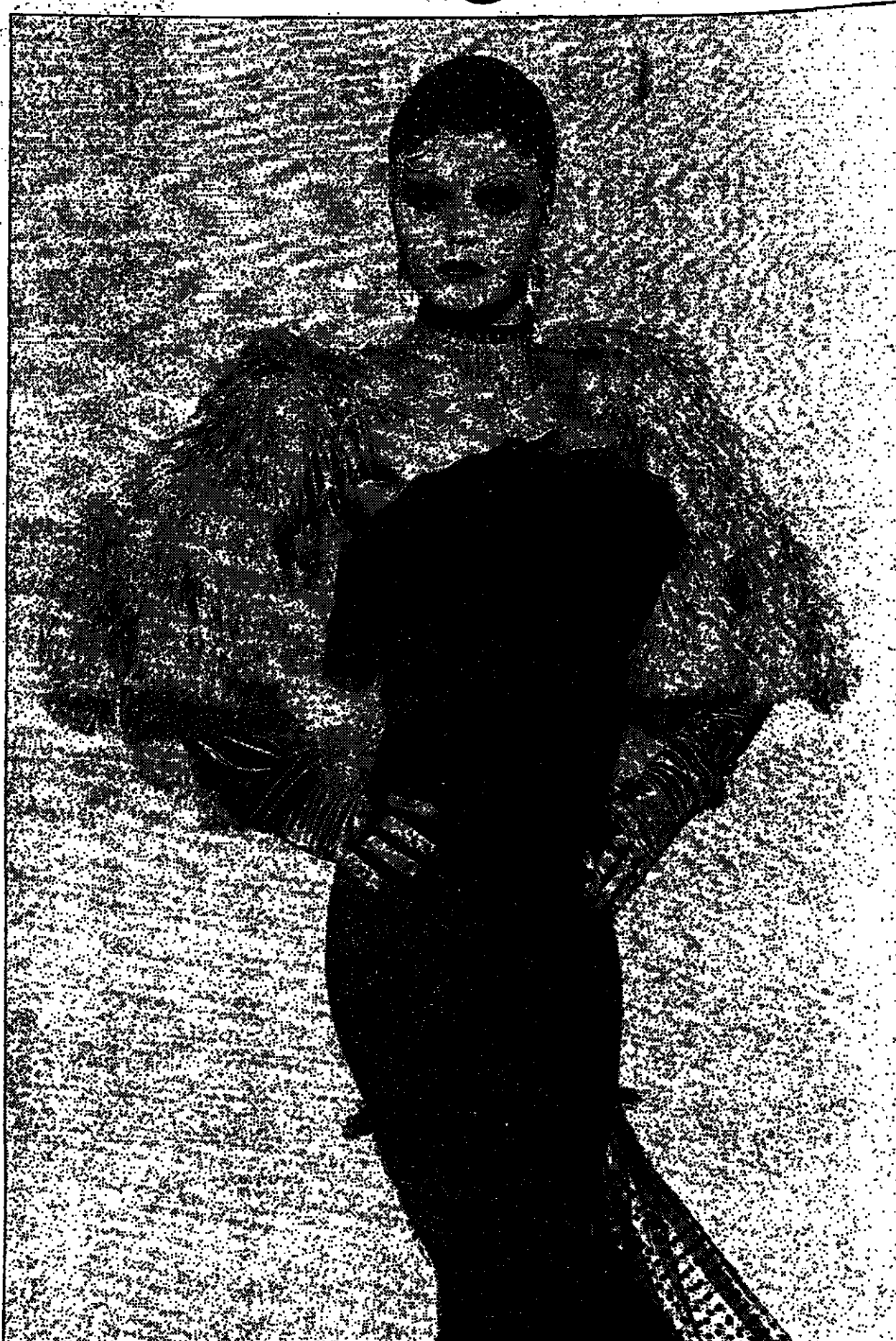
Above: Gloria Swanson shimmering gold dress, £145, knitted lurex gloves, £12.50, both from Whistles, St Christopher's Place, W1 and branches. Gold lamé turban from the Hollywood Greats collection by Graham Smith at Kangol from Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1. Gold necklace, £85, bracelet, £19, both from Rocks, South Molton Street, W1 and St Ann Street, Manchester

Top left: mischievous Monroe halter-neck dress in silver lamé, £89.99 by Monix from Top Shop, Oxford Circus, W1; Mango, St Leonard's Road, Windsor; Looking Good, Lord Street Mall, Blackburn. Gold leather court shoes, £55 from Pied à Terre, Sloane Street, SW1 and Duke's Lane, Brighton

Above right: Mae West figure-hugging black tube dress, £24.99 from Chelsea Girl, Oxford Circus, W1 and branches. Black skullcap from the Hollywood Greats collection by Graham Smith at Kangol from Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1. Antique leather cape, £75 from stand K19, Grays Antique Market, Davies Mews, W1. Panné velvet gloves, £12.99 from Miss Selfridge, Duke Street, W1 and branches. Art deco ear-rings, £29 from Rocks, South Molton Street, W1 and Manchester. Diamanté choker, £34.50, matching bangle, £29.50, both from Xavier Danaud, St Christopher's Place, W1

Photographs: DAVID ANTHONY

Hair and make-up: CLIFFORD BRAKE for Michaeljohn



FASHION PEOPLE

Hartnell twice over



Barnett (left) and Edelstein

I hear of more new plans for the House of Hartnell, now being discreetly refurbished.

The couture collection next month will be the last under the old regime. In March, Hartnell plans to launch a ready-to-wear collection during London Fashion Week. This will be under the Hartnell banner using what Hartnell's new director, the Swedish-born Maria Walther, describes as an "English-born team of designers".

Since Bruce Oldfield officially turned down the idea of creating a separate collection for Hartnell on September 5, the search has been on.

Negotiations were started with Alistair Blair, a 29-year-old graduate of St Martin's who was trained in Paris couture at Dior and Givenchy and worked for three years with Karl Lagerfeld. He was first at Chloé in Paris and then joined Lagerfeld as his design assistant. Alistair Blair

can reveal that the creative side will now be split.

Sheridan Barnett, 35, a graduate of Horney and Chelsea art colleges, is designing Hartnell daywear on a freelance basis. Yorkshire-born Barnett has worked as a designer for ready-to-wear manufacturers and included a spell with Ossie Clark at Quorum in the 1970s. He currently contributes designs to Jaeger, as well as working on his collection produced by Reldan.

At Hartnell, Sheridan Barnett is facing a tradition of grand romantic dressing in contrast to his own purest philosophy of simply cut clothes free of fuss and adornment.

The delicate business of the royal warrants - to the Queen and the Queen Mother - has sealed all lips about further developments at Hartnell, but I

approached to do the all important Hartnell evening wear. Edelstein, 40, who trained at Dior-London and in ready-to-wear tailoring, would be a good catch for Hartnell because he understands the couture process. But Edelstein himself would not comment on any projected Hartnell deal.

He is no doubt mindful of another delicate situation, for he is currently favoured by the Princess of Wales. Her elegant and much applauded midnight blue velvet evening dress was one of the successes of the recent Washington visit. His well-tread elegant style complements Bruce Oldfield's racy *Dynasty* look.

Such thoughts of royal patronage are, I am sure, far from the minds of the House of Hartnell as the 50-year-old silver-grey mirrored salon stirs from its slumbers.

Royal ready to wear

Meanwhile, over at the Savile Row salon of Hardy Amies, they seem to have already pulled off the "big one".

I spotted the Princess of Wales on Monday wearing an elegant blond cashmere suit that I recognized from the Amies ready-to-wear collection. The puff-sleeved suit with velvet buttons is in the well-bred tradition of English country clothes, as founded by Hardy Amies himself.

The ever-discreet house of Hardy Amies, with its well-polished royal warrant, would not confirm that the Princess of Wales has become a client, but admitted that the suit came from them. Other outfits have been ordered from the ready-to-wear collection but no details can be released.

Ken Fleetwood, design director of Hardy Amies, is now taking a much higher profile in the company and accompanying



Princess Diana in Amies suit

Amies himself on international promotional tours to visit the 40 overseas licences. Amies and Fleetwood celebrated 15 years of fame and fortune in Japan last October with a gala fashion evening, as well as launching the Amies men's fragrance.

I look forward to the day when Ken Fleetwood and Hardy Amies pull off the ultimate fashion coup: of providing the wardrobes of two famous royal ladies.

● The world of fashion is at our feet - from the work of the Renaissance cobblers to the fine art of shoes today. Thirty exhibits from museums throughout Italy go on show to the public for four days from Thursday, to promote Italian footwear and to show the skill and artistry involved in six centuries of making for the well-heeled.

"The Shoe as Art" at the Italian Trade Centre (46 Piccadilly, London W1) shows the old alongside the new. Modern shoemakers who may one day find their fine leathers inside the glass cases include Salvatore Ferragamo, Guido Pasquale, Flli Rosetti and Andrea Fisher - who once brought art to our toes by producing a collection of shoes inspired by the abstract blocks of Mondrian.



Furry footnote

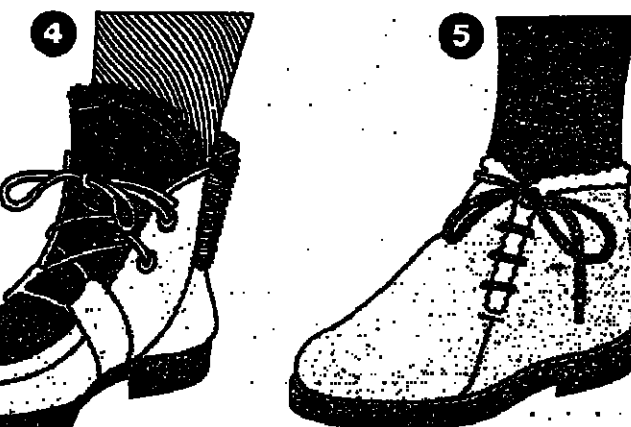
Best feet move forward into the new year prepared for wintry weather.

The latest footwear is a hybrid of the boot and the shoe - cut high at the ankle and set on a ridged rubber sole designed to grip a slippery surface.

Warmth is the key to these styles, which have furry trim and linings as fluffy as the traditional bedroom slipper.

The lace-up boxer boot is the inspiration for the sturdiest footwear. Made in rough suede or brightly coloured leather, the ankle boots lace across the high-cut upper.

Shoe boots look good with longer skirts, with this season's ski pants, or when the gap between shoe and skirt is filled in with ribbed tights. Argyll socks or fancy hosiery - another side of the winter warriors.



1. Lace-up ankle boots with a fake sheepskin lining, £37.99 from Bertie, South Molton Street, W1 and branches. Thick ribbed tights, £3.50, Marks & Spencer
2. Heavy-duty black suede lace-up boots with thick sheepskin lining, £39 from Pied à Terre, Sloane Street, SW1 and branches. Cream tights, £4.50 by Elbeo
3. Scarlet suede shoes lined in fake rabbit with a leather trim, £34.99 from Bertie, South Molton Street, W1 and branches. Argyll socks, £4.99 from the Sock Shop

4. Suede and leather lace-up boots with a black sheepskin lining, £55.99 from Russell & Bromley, 24 New Bond Street, W1. Tights, £1.25 Chamos
5. Bright pink tough leather ankle boots with a lace-up side fastening, £42 by Cobbler for Rayne at Zone, Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Tights, £3.50 Marks & Spencer

Illustrations by MICHAEL DAVIDSON

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THE TIMES DIARY

Dressing down

The view that Sandhurst turns out officers who are all breeding and no brains is not far off, according to an article in the current edition of the Sandhurst journal. The journal's editor, Jan de Klerk, appears to be putting his career as a Sandhurst lecturer on the line by condemning proposals to cut back cadets' academic training (recently highlighted in *The Times*). Speaking "where angels, and well-behaved civilians, should forbear to tread", De Klerk says the cutbacks in education could require Sandhurst's charter to be rewritten. On the other hand, "Brigadier Richard Simpkins has a simpler solution: the abolition of Sandhurst and its offensive 'etiquette'." Sandhurst's commander, Major-General Richard Keightley, was livid on reading the editorial and agreed not to withdraw the journal from circulation only when shrewdly advised that such suppression would attract publicity.

Looking ahead

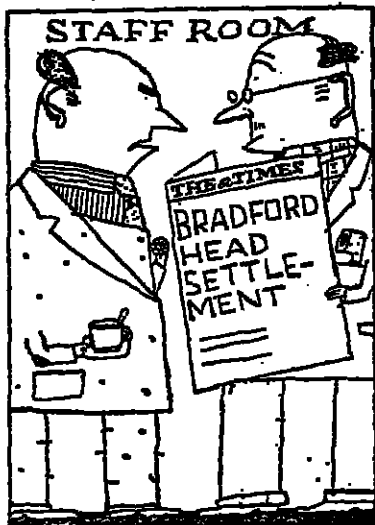
Pat Hewitt, Neil Kinnock's press secretary, was perhaps wise to attend Saturday's meeting of 60 Labour parliamentary candidates. Chaired by Ken Livingstone, they agreed to meet regularly in the run-up to the next election. The last time Livingstone organized such meetings was for Labour GLC candidates in 1981. Within hours of their electoral success, he mobilized this support to seize the Labour group leadership from Andrew McIntosh.

● The GLC's most vehement opponent, Lady Porter of Westminister Council, was a notable absentee when her family firm, Tesco, made an award to a local council for the best energy conservation scheme. The winner? The GLC.

Shadow play

Kenneth Baker, the Environment Secretary, has just sent a Christmas card to Margaret Hodge, leader of ratabled Islington Council. Either he is magnanimous in victory or is merely twisting the knife. The card shows a view of the Royal Naval College at Greenwich, which will be blocked out by the huge triple-towered Canary Wharf development in London's docklands. As chairman of the Association of London Authorities, Ms Hodge strongly opposes the proposed development. Baker is the minister who has refused a public inquiry.

BARRY FANTONI



"If we don't get our pay rise soon I shall develop some controversial views on multi-racial education"

Fenian slip

Angry Unionists will see it as further evidence of conspiracy. The first stationery to be delivered to British Telecom's Northern Ireland headquarters since the Hillsborough agreement was sent for pulping by a sensitive management yesterday: the name of the headquarters, Alton House, was inadvertently revealed as Dail House, after the Dublin parliament.

Close

John Casey, former editor of the *Tory Cambridge Review*, spoke truth when he knew when he told me last week that he thought he had awarded the prestigious Sestonian poetry prize to Derek Brewer, Master of Emmanuel College, rather than to Marxist Don Stephen Heath. Professor Brewer, himself now editor of the *Review*, turns out to have won the contest's second prize.

● For years they have joked that you will soon need a mortgage to buy a doll's house. Now, in their weekly advert in the *Breadwest Gazette*, estate agents Hilbery Chaplin actually are selling an "Elizabethan-style" doll's house - for £250.

Present tense

A group of "wet" backbench Tories who feel that Edward Heath has been much maligned are, I am reliably informed, planning a mark of their esteem, possibly a portrait, to be presented to him on his 70th birthday next July. This would not ingratiate them with their present leader, which may explain why none of them is admitting to the plan.

Silence

A word in the ear of Ann Widdecombe, who has just been chosen by the Tories to fight the Maidstone seat in Kent of Sir John Wells, who is retiring. If she wants to keep in with the PM, she should button up about her triumph: when Sir John was selected 27 years ago from a shortlist of two, the one to be rejected was the young hound Margaret T.

A locked, windowless room in the library of Manchester Polytechnic houses all the evidence Neil Kinnock needs to show once and for all that the Militant tendency is a secret entrust organization.

Militant's leaders have always vehemently denied either that they are an organization, or that they have a membership. They also refuse allegations that they are really the Revolutionary Socialist League, a body set up in the mid-1950s using the specific Trotskyist tactic of entering the Labour Party under cover in order to influence its policies. Though Militant's real nature has long been obvious to anyone who comes into contact with it, concrete proof has been almost impossible to find.

The Jimmy Deane collection of papers was donated to the Manchester Polytechnic by Deane in 1982. He had worked closely with different Trotskyist groups in the 1940s, '50s and '60s with Militant's "guru", Ted Grant. Together, in 1955, Deane and Grant co-founded the organization which is really the Militant tendency, the Revolutionary Socialist League (RSL). Later, in 1964, they set up the *Militant* newspaper.

Access to the most interesting documents in the Deane collection is restricted to bona fide academic researchers. Journalists are strictly barred. So too, for some reason, are members of the Labour Party. Since the Deane papers were donated to the polytechnic, only two people apart from ourselves have ever inspected the 104 carefully collated boxes.

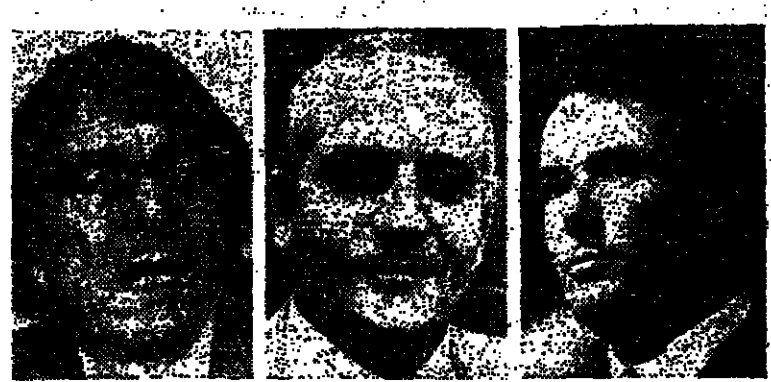
The most interesting item is the draft constitution drawn up and agreed by the RSL in 1962. It established the complete structure of the RSL/Militant Tendency, involving individual members, branches, district committees, a national committee, an executive committee and a national conference. Members were expected to pay a minimum subscription of five shillings a week, a considerable sum of money in 1972. Three-fifths of all the money raised by branches was destined for central funds, the rest to be retained by the branches.

The opening line of the two-page document states that the RSL was the British section of the Fourth International, the international body which united Trotskyist groups around the world. Members had to contribute a further expense a week to the International's funds. Militant actually split with the International in 1965 and its British franchise was transferred to the International Marxist Group (now the Socialist League), with which Militant tried an unsuccessful merger in 1964. Since the 1970s Militant has maintained its own international Trotskyist network.

In spite of Militant's recent complaints about Labour Party

Michael Crick and John Callaghan find a cache of incriminating evidence over 23 years on the party within a party.

Militant's big lie - the proof in black and white



Grant, Deane's partner, Militant co-founder. Mulhearn, listed as member in 1964. Hatton, beneficiary of long-term plans.

"witchhunts", the RSL was given its own disciplinary procedures. "Decisions of governing bodies", the constitution states, "are binding upon all members and subordinate units. Any member violating these decisions shall be subjected to disciplinary action." And just as the leaders of Militant expelled from the Labour Party in 1983 were allowed to appeal to the party conference, disciplined RSL members can appeal to the League's annual conference.

The constitution describes the RSL as a "party", and openly admits its entrust purpose. The final clause states: "All members of the RSL are required to enter the mass organizations of the working class under the direction of the party organs for the purpose of fulfilling the aims of the party" (ie the RSL). It also gives clear instructions to the Derek Hattons, Terry Fields, and other members who would become councillors or MPs. "All members holding public office, paid or otherwise, shall come under the complete control of the party and its organs."

Since 1962 the RSL constitution has undoubtedly been modified and updated, but in essence it sets out the rules of the RSL, or the Militant tendency, as it exists today. There is no evidence that the RSL has been disbanded, although the title *Revol-*

utionary Socialist League is used only in the highest levels of the tendency. Minutes of RSL meetings, and several items of correspondence, make clear the links between the RSL and the *Militant* newspaper. If Ted Grant had his way, according to the minutes of one meeting, *Militant* would have been called *Forward*, but Grant was outvoted. Would the term "Forward tendency" have made quite the same impact?

Perhaps the clearest link between the RSL and *Militant* is provided in the minutes of an RSL meeting held after a Labour Party student summer school in September 1964. Officials of the Fourth International had queried a previous RSL statement that it would set up a new "tendency paper". A motion passed at the meeting tried to clarify matters: "By 'Tendency Paper' was meant an entrust propaganda paper, applying the programme of Trotskyism within the Labour Party & the TUs (trade unions) & that this paper, *The Militant*, would be the main journal." The first issue of *Militant* was published three weeks later.

The minutes of RSL meetings also provide evidence for the Labour Party inquiry team currently looking at Liverpool. For security reasons, the Deane records only rarely

mention full names - though simple initials are given - but whoever wrote the minutes of an RSL meeting in March 1964 slipped up. The list of those present is written in full, and includes not only Peter Taylor, the general editor of *Militant*, and Pat Wall, whom Michael Foot tried to stop being Labour candidate for Huddersfield North in 1981, but more significant in terms of recent developments, Tony Mulhearn and Terry Hatton, who today are president and vice-president respectively of the Liverpool District Labour Party. Both are among the main subjects of the Labour Party inquiry. Derek Hatton's name is not mentioned anywhere, in 1964 Hatton was still a schoolboy at the Liverpool Institute, a long way from joining either *Militant* or Labour.

Jimmy Deane began his close relationship with Ted Grant in the 1940s, the only period when British Trotskyists were united in one organization, the Revolutionary Communist Party. While Grant was based in London, Deane nurtured a small group of Trotskyists in Liverpool, largely based in the Walton constituency. In 1952 Deane stood unsuccessfully for Liverpool council, while his brother Brian, also an RSL member, was elected as a councillor.

The "Deanites", as this group of Trotskyists were called, even succeeded in the late 1950s in getting Grant chosen as Labour candidate for Walton, but then the Labour Party hierarchy stepped in and disqualified him. It is Deane who can take much of the credit for establishing the RSL, or Militant tendency, in Liverpool, although successors such as Taffie and Hatton have achieved the glory.

Deane gave up active involvement in the RSL in 1965 when he went to India for a short time. Today, approaching his 65th birthday, he lives in Wigan, unemployed. He has continued to read the papers he has, and it will be difficult for Militant to disown them. But quite why Deane should have taken the risk of donating his archives to the polytechnic is not clear. Perhaps he hoped his papers would help to ensure that when the time comes for future historians to examine the background to the Marxist revolution which he will believe Militant will bring about, his own role will be firmly established.

But inadvertently, Deane may also have provided the Labour leadership with some of the concrete evidence it is looking for to back up action against the Militant members in their midst.

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Michael Crick is a reporter with Channel 4 News. John Callaghan is a lecturer at Wolverhampton Polytechnic. This article is based on material shown on Channel 4 last night.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Who will defend us against the bullies in blue?

which he had just taken her when the incident occurred, so that he should not be without witnesses.

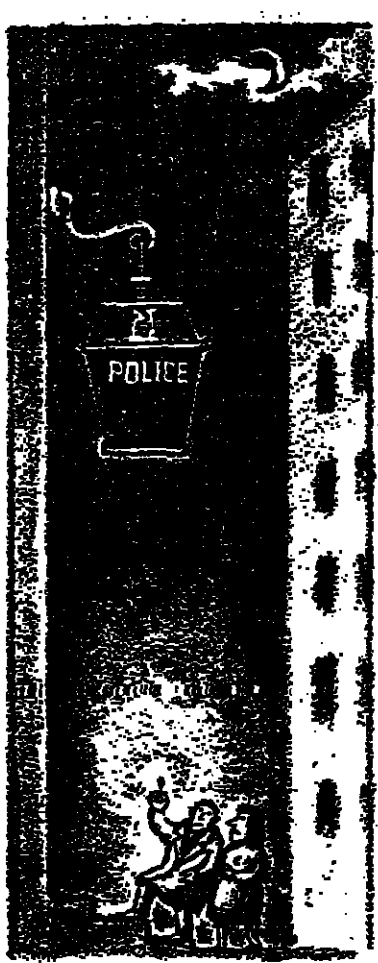
When Mr Wilson and Miss Farbridge and the police were all together at her office, she explained about his disability. Both of them were then arrested and taken to a police station, where they were both strip-searched. In the course of the journey to the police station, PC Roderick Paterson and PC Neil Rossier assaulted Mr Wilson by dropping him on the floor of the van; he had already been assaulted in his car. In the course of Miss Farbridge's examination, she was assaulted by search; she was also forced, when naked, to jump up and down.

Sergeant Raymond Gull and WPC Karen Connell falsely claimed that they believed Miss Farbridge had drugs about her. No drugs were found on either Mr Wilson or Miss Farbridge, but they were falsely charged with other offences: Mr Wilson with careless driving and assaulting a police officer; Miss Farbridge with obstructing a police officer. Both were subsequently acquitted of all charges. They then brought an action for damages against the Metropolitan Police.

By the time the civil case was to be heard, the Met were running scared: they offered Mr Wilson £2,500 to settle out of court. The odd sum is easily explained: if damages are offered and a court awards less than the offer, the plaintiff is obliged to pay all the costs for both sides from the date of the offer. Lawyers estimate what a plaintiff might get, and advise their clients to offer slightly more; here, the Met plainly guessed that Mr Wilson might be awarded £2,500, and the extra five, if he did, would ensure that the costs would fall on him.

As it happened, Mr Wilson was awarded a total of £1,750, while Miss Farbridge was awarded £2,000 altogether, and Mr Wilson was ordered to pay the costs, but the judge, in a reconvened hearing, changed his decision: he said that he had not fully taken into account what he called "the disgraceful conduct" of the police, and awarded Mr Wilson his costs after all.

Out of the corner of my eye I can see the *Times* lawyers beginning to bleed from the ears, so I had better pause to explain my confident ascription of wrongdoing to the officers in the case. It was the jury in



Police officers

the civil action (and, by inevitable implication, the magistrate in the prosecutions of Mr Wilson and Miss Farbridge) who concluded that, as the plaintiffs contended, Mr Wilson had been unlawfully arrested, maliciously prosecuted, falsely imprisoned and for good measure assaulted, and that Miss Farbridge had been unlawfully arrested, falsely imprisoned and likewise (and humiliatingly) assaulted.

And it was the judge who declared that the conduct of the police had been "disgraceful" and that they had behaved "oppressively and in abuse of their powers". The names of the officers in question were attached as specified above to the offences described.

And just in case Mr Toby Jessel MP wants to believe that the jury was packed by defence challenges so

"If there is a tendency to believe that the doors of black people's houses can be broken down with more readiness and less excuse than those of white people, there is something very much deeper and rotter at the heart of the Met than the inevitable incidence of a few bad and dishonest members of it"

as to be entirely composed of drug-maddened woodoo-follower with an average of 40 convictions for grievous bodily harm. I must draw attention to the fact that they refused Mr Wilson a verdict on one of the most important of his indictments: they decided that although Mr Wilson had no drugs about him, the police were not lying when they said they thought he had, so that it was proper for them to search him.

I am unable to accept, in a case as scandalous as this, the "rotten apples" theory. Of course there are dishonest policemen and police-women, as there are dishonest butchers, bakers and candlestick-makers: why, I have even heard of journalists who occasionally say the thing that is not. But what can be the climate in which these officers were trained and assigned, and what must be the tenor of the force of which they are members, if such catalogue of dishonesty and wickedness becomes visible when the carpet is rolled back?

Mr Wilson said, after the case, that he had often been stopped by the police "just for being a black Rastaman". I would normally discount a good deal of such a claim; after this case, I do not, particularly in the wake of the Groce and Jarrett affairs.

If there is in the Met a tendency to believe that the doors of black people's houses can be broken down with more readiness and less excuse than those of white people's, and if five officers conspire to commit unlawful arrest, malicious prosecution, false imprisonment and assault on a black man and his white companion, and then lie themselves even deeper into the mire while their superiors, who can see a barn door by daylight, are striving to prevent the case coming to court, then it seems to me that there is something very much deeper and rotter at the heart of the Met than the inevitable incidence of a few bad and dishonest members of it.

In the things that have been said before, but they have not been said by me. The fact that I am saying them now is important only in one particular: if those whose insinuations as well as logical sympathies have always been engaged on the side of the police are now finding that that is ceasing to be true, it must mean that we feel that there is good reason for our inch. There have been too many things said here, and too many plainly genuine complaints and grievances, for the Met or anyone else to go on repeating that there is nothing more to it than a few officers who have let the force down. It now seems to me more likely that a subterranean stream of poison is running through the force, and that the Wilson-Farbridge scandal may be far less exceptional than it should be.

When Sir Robert Mark became commissioner, he caused surprise by making clear that his greatest priority would be to root out corruption in the force he led. What asked some, more important than catching burglars, making the streets safer, stopping the heroin-peddlers? Yes, much more important, for home that is built upon and cannot stand. It is perhaps time for the present commissioner, or his successor, to undertake, with no less energy, implacability and urgency, to sweep his force clean of a very different, yet perhaps even more pernicious, plague. That Home Secretary was right.

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Roger Scruton

Mandela the manipulated

Why build a monument to Nelson? The simple answer is surely the correct one. Such a monument expresses gratitude: it is a testimony to the honour of the hero, from people whose freedom he protected and whose lives he inspired.

The value of Nelson's monument lasts just so long as people recognize that political freedom and lawful government depend in the end, upon personal sacrifice. Few people know the why and wherefore of Trafalgar, few people could now describe, still fewer analyse, the threat which then was offered to our country. But almost everyone can understand the worth and the meaning of Nelson's sacrifice, and the column which carries him is no sad relic of forgotten conflicts but a living reminder of our common interests, common allegiance, and common fate.

The same could not be said of the monument which the GLC has now raised to the second Nelson. Whether or not Mandela is a hero, he is certainly not one who has spent himself as our Nelson. On the contrary, when he trained as a guerrilla in Algeria, it was to prepare for a conflict in which we were to be the ultimate victims. When the ANC and the South African Communist Party joined together in 1961 to form Umkhonto We Sizwe - the "armed wing" of the liberation movement - it was with the express purpose of striking a blow not only against the white regime in South Africa, but also against the entire world of "international capitalism", of which we are a part.

Mandela may be a hero. But it has to be said that the ANC's greatest military triumph, such as the Pretoria bomb of 1983 which killed 19 civilians and maimed 239, was accomplished after his imprisonment, and cast no glory on himself. For such victories the credit should go to Oliver Tambo, president of the ANC and long-time member of the Soviet-controlled World Peace Council, and to Moses Kotane of the South African Communist Party, who, as the ANC's external treasurer, has played an indispensable role in arming the guerrillas of South Africa.

If we wish to know whose interests those "freedom-fighters" really serve, we should study more closely the affiliation of the ANC leadership. President Brezhnev gave an important clue when, speaking in Prague in 1973, he said the Soviet strategic aim was "to gain control of the two great treasure-houses on which the West depends... the energy treasure-house of the Persian Gulf, and the mineral treasure-house of central and southern Africa."

Now as then, the ANC is to be the spearhead of Soviet domination. Should it accomplish its purpose not only will the people of South Africa be deprived of their little freedom, but the West as a whole will receive a political, economic and strategic blow from which it will never recover. Londoners will surely not

look kindly, then, on the statue to the second Nelson. But who knows whether they would still be permitted to pull it down?

However, perhaps the eight-foot high bust of the hero is intended to testify not to the virtues of Mandela's politics but to the virtues of the man. For surely Mandela has virtues: courage, integrity, a desire, however abstractly conceived and however cruelly assailed, for the well-being of his people.

Was it not these virtues that encouraged him, in 1962, to return to South Africa, in the vain hope of marching to the citadel of power? Surely, it is no ordinary character who could conceive such a design, no coward who would embark on it. It was a favourite argument of the Greeks that virtue is one - that courage divorced from wisdom is mere foolhardiness, that wisdom without justice is selfish cunning, that justice without temperance is a corrupting prodigality. This powerful thought has never succeeded in vanquishing the evidence of history, which so often shows the threat of power in the hands of creators, no better than half-virtuous - men like Cromwell, whom Chaucer described as brave and bad.

Occasionally some artist portrays the tragedy of such a blighted hero. Like Marvell in the *Horatian Ode*, or Shakespeare in *Coriolanus*, he shows the anguish and the isolation of a life which, moved by impetuous designs and implacable ambition, has at last over-reached itself, and stands threatened and despairing in fortune's falling tide.

Such a life, it seems to me, has been Mandela's. Those who told him, during his years of training, that South Africa was ripe for revolution, who promised all necessary help, and who convinced him that he could now play the part of Xhosa chiefdom, leading his people to freedom and power - those flatterers of his foolish pride knew well enough that they sent him home to death or life imprisonment. Only as a martyr could such a figure be useful to them; for only as a martyr would he symbolize the qualities of strength and leadership so sadly lacking in the mass.

To portray in bronze or stone the life and character of so flawed a hero would be no easy task. Rodin, perhaps, might have succeeded in marking, on Mandela's statue, the final triumph of an ignoble pride. A bust by such a master would be worth every penny spent on it, and set up in some public place would serve as a valuable reminder of a melancholy truth.

The bust by Ian Walters, however, has all the posturing grandiloquence of the cult of personality. It is a resonant image, but it resonates not with the ring of truth but with the trashy din of propaganda. Is that all that Mandela stands for?

The author is editor of the Salisbury Review.

moreover... Miles Kington

A child's guide to the City

Q: Why are so many terrible things happening in the City of London?

A: Because the City of London has fallen into the hands of the Millionaire Tendency.

Q: What is the Millionaire Tendency?

A: It is a right-wing organization which intends to make things so difficult for the government that the City of London will become ungovernable.

Q: What chance have they got of doing this?

A: They achieved it many years ago.

Q: What are the methods used by Millionaire Tendency?

A: They borrow millions of pounds from other people, and never give it back.

Q: Isn't that called fraud?

A: They prefer to call it secondary banking.

Q: I'm a little confused here. If the City of London is in the hands of the Millionaire Tendency, and the place has become ungovernable, why doesn't the government close it down?

A: Well, the City of London makes a great deal of money for Britain in the shape of invisible earnings.

Q: How do you make invisible earnings?

A: By taking millions of pounds from people and never giving it back.

Q: Isn't that something rather dishonest about taking other people's money and not giving it back?

A: Not if you don't get found out.

Q: What happens if you do get found out?

A: The Bank of England comes to your rescue.

Q: Why does the Bank of England come to the aid of people who have fraudulently handled millions of pounds?

A: Because the Bank of England is also in the hands of Millionaire Tendency.

Q: Oh my goodness me! What do Millionaire Tendency hope to gain by all this?

A: Millions and millions and millions of pounds. And a knight's hood.

Q: Are Millionaire Tendency still and to any political party?

A: Well, I think it's safe to say that not many of them voted Labour at the last election. But Millionaire Tendency are only political in that they represent capitalism in its purest form.

Q: What is the purest form of capitalism?

A: Taking millions of pounds from other people and never giving it back.

Q: I thought that was called armed robbery.

A: Not quite. Armed robbery is the purest form of private enterprise.

Q: Is there anything the government can do about this terrible state of affairs?

A: They have decided to let the City of London put its own affairs in order.

Q: What has happened since then?

A: Things have got worse.

Q: Would it not be possible for people in the City to guard against Millionaire Tendency by insuring with Lloyd's of London?

A: Possible, but not advisable.

Q: Why not?

A: It is not unknown for Lloyd's to take money and not give it back. In fact, the current backlog is nearly £200 million.

Q: You don't mean that Lloyd's has come into the hands of...

A: Millionaire Tendency? Of course.

Q: Good heavens! How did all this Millionaire Tendency activity come to light?

A: The Fraud Squad, the Director of Public Prosecution and the Bank of England all looked into it.

Q: And found evidence of very strange goings-on?

A: No. They noticed nothing odd at all. But an MP called Brian Sedgemoor unearthed a great deal about the activities of Millionaire Tendency.

Q: How is it possible for a lone MP to discover things that several major agencies failed to notice?

A: Perhaps Mr Sedgemoor is not a member of Millionaire Tendency.

Q: What is the attitude of the Tory Party to Millionaire Tendency?

A: It is severely embarrassed by the activities of Millionaire Tendency.

Q: What are the symptoms of severe embarrassment?

A: Losing votes at the next election.

Q: Does the Tory party wish to prevent this by cleaning up the City of London?

A: No. It wishes to prevent it by hushing up the City of London.

Q: Wouldn't it be wise for the Tory party to expel all Millionaire Tendency members from its ranks?

A: Yes.

Q: Will they do this?

A: No.

Q: Why not?

A: The Tory party never expels anyone. The thought of losing a subscription to party funds is too painful for it to contemplate.

Q: But surely the Tory Party is against the idea of taking millions of pounds from other people and never giving it back?

A: Not at all. It does so itself all the time. It's called collecting for party funds. And you do at least get a laugh out of it.

Q: The Tory party sounds just the sort of organization that Millionaire Tendency would be at home in.

A: Oh, it is. But nobody ever says so.



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A CAREFUL MR FOWLER

The Government's social security white paper is a mixture of cautious second thoughts, minor humane adjustments and a fairly dogged adherence to the principles outlined by the Social Services Secretary in his "green paper" six months ago. Caution dictated a change of heart on state pensions. Humanity is visible in the improvements for disabled families, in particular, within the basic structure of income-tested benefits. This structure, a clear improvement on the present rag-bag of payments in cash and kind for those on low income, survives basically unaltered. And the Prime Minister remains determined to provide help with housing costs only in a way that does not prevent all householders from bearing some part of the burden of local authority rates.

On the whole, Mr Norman Fowler deserves commendation for struggling to the second stage in the painful and protracted business of getting to grips with Britain's largest programme of public expenditure. The fundamental flaw remains where it has been since the beginning, in the mass of loose wires which need to be connected with Britain's system of income taxation. Too late, the Treasury has developed a parallel interest in tax reform. We have not yet seen from Mr Nigel Lawson the promised green paper: let alone a finished white paper on income tax.

These unfinished connections make the Government's finished plan for social security look somewhat like a self-assembled pack of microchips. But the components are important in themselves. The two new schemes for the relief of poverty - "family credits" for those in work and "income support" for those who are not - have been illustrated with figures that demonstrate their significance. A family with three children, for example, could receive a maximum family credit of over £50 a week, on top of child benefits of £21, if the scheme were operating today. In fact, however, Mr Fowler has had to admit his original timetable was too ambitious. His new welfare state has had to be delayed from 1987 to 1988.

This should allow time for further reflection on aspects of the plan, and indeed for a proper attempt to reconcile Mr Fowler's and Mr Lawson's respective views on their different sides of the state's give-and-take. For example, Mr Fowler might think again about his plan to pay family credit largely through the father's pay packet, a proposal that has inflamed the family lobby. As proposed in the white paper, the mother may only be the recipient if she is working for more than 24 hours a week, which excludes the bulk of working mothers. Mr Fowler should spread this option to couples where the wife is working, say, only 16 hours a week - perhaps excluding those working for small employers, for whom the necessary administration might be an excessive burden.

On pensions, Mr Fowler's first proposal has been not merely postponed but abandoned. The state earnings-related pensions scheme (SERPS) has been re-prioritised, a sensible decision. A very great deal of money can be saved by pruning SERPS; the Government now reckons it will cost only £13 billion a year to run when it is fully mature (well into the next century), rather than £25 billion. Some of the savings have been made at the expense of over-generous provisions for women (which allowed a widow, for example, to inherit her husband's full pension as well as enjoying her own); but the Government has protected the position of women who give up work to bring up a family.

Essentially, SERPS has been cut down to an economy model by reducing the rate at which contributions earn given levels of benefit. This route to cost-saving was originally rejected by the Government on the grounds that it would be electorally unappealing to promise lower benefits for the same level of contributions. In practice, ministers found that their plan to

phase SERPS out altogether was even more unpopular.

The Government has now attempted to cover its retreat with a series of proposals intended to stimulate a natural shift from state to private pension provision. This is a much more skilful, and welcome, approach. Employers will be able to offer a much wider variety of occupational schemes, outside the present straitjacket imposed by SERPS requirements. Individuals will themselves be allowed to opt out of their employers' schemes; while if they opt to remain inside, their ability to carry their pension piggy-back into another job will be further enhanced. Finally, there will be a special "unrepeatable offer" for companies or individuals who contract out of SERPS over the next five years - an extra rebate of national insurance contributions, to be paid direct into a pension plan.

There remain some important questions about this radical upheaval of pension arrangements in the names of flexibility and individual freedom. Although company schemes will still be governed by rules requiring a minimum level of contributions, they will no longer be required to provide a guaranteed minimum pension. "Money purchase" schemes, which will now be permitted, may and probably will offer more than the state minimum; but it is possible they will, on occasion, offer less.

This lays a requirement on the Government not only to govern the providers of pensions tightly - a matter which strengthens the case for firm regulation of the City - but also to provide the individual with the personal choice to opt for membership of SERPS rather than a company or personal pension, should he or she so desire.

It is not entirely clear from the white paper that the individual can do so; it is an essential element in the logic of the liberty in pensions that all options are available not only to companies but to the individuals who work for them.

A BLUR OF BLADES

Little is known about the fine print in either of the two rival offers to keep the rotor blades turning at the Westland works in Yeovil. From the details that have so far emerged, both would seem to fall well short of ideal. But then Westland is in a far from ideal position and it might in the end be the lesser of two evils to which it must turn for its salvation.

That this is so is not altogether surprising. As a specialized private company operating in a world of fiercely competing giants, Westland has for far too long looked vulnerable. It should arguably have been brought under the wing of British Aerospace, either when BAe was formed or some time later. BAe has now come riding over the hill as part of the European relief force. But earlier involvement to broaden the base of the Westland operation would have been a logical development and might have prevented the Yeovil plant from falling into its present state of siege.

It would not of course have answered all Westland's problems. These arise from the simple fact that there are too many firms making helicopters. Supply outstrips demand - or would if it were allowed to. With a dearth of orders between now and the end of the decade the future for Westland and its employees has looked bleak for some time.

Their survival has a national importance because of the Ministry of Defence's interest in

having a British source of helicopters. Ironically the future for the military helicopter, not only as a means of transporting troops but as a weapon system in its own right - remains very bright. The argument against turning to an overseas source for our machines is well founded on economic and security grounds.

Yet the ministry's response to Westland's growing difficulties has been painfully unimaginative and slow. While Rome has burned, the ministry has fiddled - even when the flames started licking round the windows. Mr Michael Heseltine has steadfastly refused to bend the Government's rules of self-help - until Westland did just that and summoned aid from the one place it was available, across the Atlantic. Only then did the alarm bells start ringing in Horse Guards Avenue.

The Sikorsky-Fiat offer looks less than perfect for all the reasons that have already been well aired. Sikorsky, a helicopter giant whose machines have already been made under licence by all the big manufacturers on this side of the Atlantic, has long been looking for a permanent European partner. That it sees the plant at Yeovil as no more than a "metal-bashing" and marketing facility for its own US-designed products, is a danger that both Westland and the Government must try to guard against.

On the other hand Westland's only alternative would seem to be a hastily constructed consortium of European interests which, despite the respectability conferred by the presence of British Aerospace and GEC, has a no less shifty look about it. The cause of European collaboration is a very sound one and the rationalization of the Old World's helicopter industry is long overdue. But companies like the Elysée-backed Aerospatiale are not known for their altruism. The interest of companies like Aerospatiale, MBB and Augusta lies in blocking Sikorsky's entry to Europe - not with giving a helping hand to Westland.

Having told Sir John Cuckney and his board to find a way out of their own difficulties, the Ministry of Defence cannot reasonably expect them to start listening to Whitehall advice now. But there is also a more positive argument why Sikorsky-Fiat sounds the more promising option: Sikorsky is looking for a means of expanding and, with United Technologies behind it, perhaps in other fields than helicopter manufacture. The European bid has been made largely by companies which are looking for survival - primarily of themselves. There was a time when this Government and others might have hoisted the European flag and ensured a better future for them all. As it is Westland has had to look to its own.

PORTUGAL'S PROGRESS

The attention paid to Spain on the tenth anniversary of the return of its monarchy after Franco has tended to put its quieter western neighbour even further into the shadows. Portugal is used to being an Iberian afterthought, hanging on Spain's coast-tails like some poor country cousin given grudging house space, having fallen on hard times. Its comparatively poor status will be further shown up when the Iberians join the European community on January 1. But while confident Spain is already well down a road to a modern society on which a nervous Portugal has hardly yet set foot, that very differential is seen as an opportunity and not a threat, from Lisbon.

For a start, the Portuguese have nowhere to go but forward and up. They reckon that their lowly status will give them an edge over the Spanish, in terms of sympathetic treatment and even more realistically in terms of their ability to compete on

cost grounds. What the Portuguese will have to work out is the pace of the march down the road to the future. Three different drumbeats are competing to set the speed.

At the top, the current President (soon to be just another hustling politician) Eanes is believed to recognize that a "full-scale revolution in people's thinking" is required. His group believes that the Portuguese will have, at once, to stop being self-protective, inward-looking, quiet and shy, the people who think a worthwhile ambition is to become a servant in a Spanish household.

The second drummer is the Prime Minister, Cavaco Silva. He has, perhaps in the absence of a strong national mandate to do anything more dramatic, committed his centre-right government to the theme of "controlled progress" of change. Portugal must move on, yes - but not too quickly. It must walk before it can run. To introduce the market economy on which

he campaigned is still a target, but will be tricky with only less than 30 per cent of the vote behind him. The local elections this weekend ought to give him more radical confidence. He wants, for instance, to change the over-protective and enterprise-stifling elements in the constitution which look after the employee and hamstring the employer. A job in Portugal is a job for life, by order of the constitution, unless the company goes bankrupt - a process which can last long enough to see many workers comfortably into retirement.

The third drumbeat is so slow and tentative that movement appears to be almost imperceptible. "The people need a period of stability" is the cry of those who want to spend some time finding the right direction in which to travel before setting off on any journey. If they succeed in dictating the pace, the Portuguese could quickly sink back and become forgotten and left behind again. That would be an opportunity lost.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Philosophical shift in cities report

From the Archbishop of York
Sir, David Hart's curious article (December 9) on the soul deserves a riposte, if only to defend the Archbishop of Canterbury's report against the charge of soullessness. Mr Hart has failed to see that different languages may be needed to describe the same reality in different contexts.

In a philosophical climate in which it was once natural to think of human personality as consisting of distinct and separable components - intellect, will, emotion etc - it was almost inevitable that the unique, indestructible and eternal element in the life of an individual should be thought of as a separate entity - the soul.

But in a philosophical climate where the emphasis is now on the wholeness of human personality and on the characterization of things in terms of their relationship to one another, this same unique, indestructible and eternal element in the life of an individual is best described theologically in terms of an all-encompassing relationship with God.

This second kind of language has the further advantage for Christians in being closer to biblical patterns of thought than the first, which is more typically Greek. In biblical terms we are what we are because God knows us, and calls us, and names us. Our eternal value resides, not in anything we possess, but in God's faithfulness towards us and in the enduring quality of his love.

Those who wish to do so can still

use the word "soul" (with or without quotation marks) to describe the central human characteristic of being capable of entering into relationship with God. Indeed there is a second Oxford Dictionary definition of "soul", which Mr Hart forebore to mention, which says just this. But though the languages may be assimilated to one another, the implications of the philosophical shift are considerable, and it was these which the Archbishop's report was concerned to spell out.

The point is that if human persons have a unique value because they stand in an all-encompassing relationship with God, then that determining relationship must include all lesser ones. In other words, God knows us and loves us, not apart from such mundane matters as our economic and social relationships and our psychological history, but in, with and through them.

Such an understanding of the soul, far from subordinating theology and spirituality to that material world which Mr Hart so much deplores, does precisely the reverse. It reveals the world in all its complex and partial relationships as part of that totality with which God is concerned.

To describe reality thus seen as "soulless" is like describing the world outside a child's balloon as "airless".
Yours faithfully,
JOHN EBOR,
Bishop of Exeter,
December 11.

Fears for fate of the Taxicard

From the Reverend Richard J. Hamper, JP, and others

Sir, London councillors will be deciding on December 18 the fate of a scheme which has become a passport to independence for thousands of disabled people who are unable to use buses and trains. This Taxicard scheme allows for journeys such as trips for shopping, work, visiting friends and relatives and for educational and leisure pursuits - all of which are taken for granted by able-bodied people.

Taxicard holders pay £1 for taxi journeys costing up to £6. Those eligible to join are either on mobility allowance (received by people unable to walk) or have a certificate from their doctor stating they are unable to use public transport.

This scheme, established in 1983, has until now been funded by the Greater London Council. From April responsibility for its future will pass to the boroughs, which have been asked to run it as a concessionary fares scheme: a proven model already exists with the bus pass scheme.

This form of provision is relatively cheap - a trip by Taxicard is half the cost of one by the Dial A Ride transport scheme. Taxicard allows journeys that Dial A Ride does not take on and Dial A Ride would be unable to cope with the additional demand generated by 45,000 Taxicard holders if the scheme were discontinued.

It is also important for the scheme to continue across the whole of London. Otherwise disabled people living in any borough which does not decide to participate would be treated unfairly and there would also be administrative difficulties.

We are writing as people concerned with the quality of life for London's disabled citizens. Mobility through Taxicard is the key to independence for many disabled people. It is right for its own sake. It is cost-effective.

Greater independence through increased mobility will ease the demands on hard-pressed social services within the boroughs. We do hope that a Londonwide scheme will be continued.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HAMPER (Chairman, Age Concern Greater London),
MAXWELL CAPLIN (Chairman, Greater London Association for Disabled People),
IAN BRUCE (Director-General, Royal National Institute for the Blind),
JOHN COX (Director, The Spastics Society),
Age Concern Greater London,
54 Knatchbull Road, SE5,
December 12.

Atom bomb tests

From Mr P. M. F. Andrew

Sir, Professor Wilson's remarks (December 11) rightly question the technical competence of the Australian royal commission in their report on the British nuclear tests. I suggest that there are at least two other important tests which need to be applied before any realistic judgement can be made concerning the broad veracity of the commission's findings.

In the first place the objectivity of the commission needs to be assured. In this connection it should be borne in mind that the proliferation of royal commissions in Australia has a parallel with Roman circuses, particularly when the political climate is not set fair.

To this must be added an exacerbating factor arising from Australia's current agonising over their past treatment of the aboriginal people, who seemingly were shamefully neglected when the tests were undertaken.

Secondly, the commission must be seen to be impartial. If even half the remarks concerning Britain that were made by Mr Justice McClelland during the time the commission was sitting were correctly reported in the Australian Press, one could be excused for believing that he is an anglophobe.

Quite apart from technical competence, and despite the many details of the nuclear tests which have been revealed, I suggest that on both the foregoing scores the royal commission will be found wanting.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. F. ANDREW,
Framfield Lodge,
Uckfield,
East Sussex,
December 12.

Bit of a misnomer?

From Lord Thomas of Swynnerton

Sir, On two pages of your issue of December 10 you refer to "old Spanish customs" in Fleet Street, indicating dishonesty and indolence. Most Spaniards work today at least as hard as most Englishmen. They are at least as honest. Perhaps the time has come to discontinue this insulting usage.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH THOMAS,
House of Lords,
December 11.

Growing threat to historic towns

From the Chairman of Shrewsbury Civic Society Trust Limited

Sir, Recent correspondence on planning in Oxford highlights the contradictions that are inherent in any long-term planning when the need to protect the heritage of an historical town has to be reconciled with the housing requirements of an expanding population.

Urban development policies depend upon the county's structure plan. But even if these policies appear right at the time they are formulated, changing circumstances can all too easily turn them on their heads. This is certainly the case in Shrewsbury, a modest but architecturally significant town which appears to share Oxford's problems, albeit on a smaller scale.

A part of Shrewsbury's development originates ultimately in a regional strategy drawn up by the West Midlands metropolitan county and four neighbouring shires, including Shropshire, to share out between the West Midlands overspill population. Shropshire's contribution was Telford New Town, built on more or less derelict land between Wellington and Ironbridge.

With generous Government support, plenty of jobs available and a high proportion of housing being provided by local authorities, Telford got off to a promising start.

Over the last 10 years the picture has changed dramatically. Telford is now Shropshire's unemployment black spot with a rate of over 20 per cent. Local authority housing has virtually ceased, being replaced by an energetic private sector pressing

unrestrained growth. North Oxford lords and ladies should not be allowed to sabotage this opportunity.

The claims that there has been no forum for debating these issues are ridiculous. The examination in public of the structure plan (1976) and subsequent alterations (1984) and five years' preparation of the local plan, plus another inquiry, provided just such opportunities. What Lord Bullock and company don't like is that they lost the arguments.

The Boundary Commission has come out in support of the city council's boundary proposals - and again this north Oxford group don't like it.

They are asking the Government to reverse these decisions and take away our planning powers. This should be seen for what it is - an anti-democratic response by people whose views have not prevailed in the proper forums of debate.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW SMITH,
(Chairman, Oxford City Council Planning Committee),
4 Flatfield Road,
Blackbird Leys,
Oxford,
December 16.

Leave for parents

From Ms Ruth Evans

Sir, Unfortunately your report (December 5) highlighting the inadequacies of Britain's employment arrangements for working parents did little to convince the Government of the need to support the European draft directive on parental leave at the meeting of the Council of Ministers last week.

Britain's obscurity is hard to understand. The concept of parental leave is not new; indeed, nine EEC countries, excluding Britain, already provide some form of parental leave for the majority of their work force. Nor is our record on maternity and

paternity arrangements any better. Our qualifying conditions for maternity pay and leave are so strict that only half of pregnant working women qualify, whilst fathers have no statutory right to leave to care for their children.

The draft EEC parental leave directive, if enacted, would give Britain's working men and women a legal right to three months' paid leave to care for their children up to the age of two (or five in the case of handicapped or adopted children). As such, the directive provides a framework within which childcare can be accepted as a manageable part of a working parent's life rather than a source of crisis.

Employers would benefit from a less anxious work-force, and less likelihood of intermittent, disruptive absences.

The social cost of failing to adequately provide for family responsibilities within existing employment conditions can result in a significant wastage of expensive training skills for many women; the 1980 women and employment survey showed that 45 per cent of women who returned to work on a part-time basis returned to a job in a lower occupational category than their last job before childbirth.

Best policy

From Mrs Kathleen B. Cory

Sir, Reading about the 1787 vintage wine (report, December 6) I was reminded of wine I saw on sale in a Calgary supermarket which proudly bore the label: "Matured several months."

Yours faithfully,
KATHLEEN B. CORY,
4 Burnside Road,
Edinburgh,
December 9.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 17 1901

Marchese Guglielmo Marconi (1874-1937) was the first man to discover a means of communication between two points without the use of connecting wires. His first experiments were in Italy in 1894 but it was not until he began work in England in 1898 that his system became of practical value. His triumph was the result of his belief in its feasibility had been discounted by many scientists who thought that the curvature of the earth would limit wireless telegraphy to about 200 miles.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT, ST. JOHNS, DEC. 16.)

With reference to the successful transmission of wireless signals across the Atlantic, Signor Marconi authorizes me to state further that the electric signals received by him and his assistants at 12.30, 1.10, and 2.20, St. John's time, on Thursday, and at 1.38 on Friday were distinct and unmistakable. Before he left England he signalled 225 miles between Poldhu and Crookhaven, when the strength of the signals satisfied him that it was possible to send messages at ten times that distance. Hence his coming to Newfoundland, where he has proved that his theory is practically correct. Within four months, by the erection of a large and powerful station here, it would be possible to communicate for commercial purposes between the two hemispheres.

At the request of Signor Marconi, the Governor, Sir C. Boyle, has already cabled the news to Mr. Chamberlain. He is forwarding a further message this morning asking that the fact may be stated to the King, who has always taken so deep an interest in the system.

LATER.

Signor Marconi authorizes me to state that the Anglo-American Telegraph Company's solicitors have given him notice to stop his experiments and remove his appliances from the colony forthwith, otherwise they will obtain an injunction from the Supreme Court to restrain him from further proceeding with his work. The Anglo-American Company enjoys a telegraphic monopoly here of 50 years, of which 48 have now expired. This is likely to prevent Signor Marconi from giving an exhibition to the Governor and Premier to-morrow. If Signor Marconi is prevented by this notice from operating here, he will merely remove to Nova Scotia and resume his experiments there.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT, NEW YORK, DEC. 16.)

Most of the New York papers are apparently waiting for irrefragable proof that Signor Marconi has succeeded in obtaining signals from the other side of the Atlantic before commenting on the subject. It is ignored entirely by this morning's papers, although the afternoon journals devote some attention to it. The *Evening Post*, which, in spite of the *National Review*, will continue to be quoted by correspondents here as representing the best American opinion, says that there seems hardly the slightest ground for doubting Signor Marconi's success, adding that the published interviews with him only heighten the confidence felt in him as a man of science. It then alludes to the scepticism which attended the first working of the Atlantic cable, and remarks that it is unlikely that Signor Marconi and his assistants are deceived as it was that the operators of the Atlantic cable imagined they got messages from Ireland. So far as can be told from the abstracts printed here, the papers of England and America overlook one interesting circumstance in connection with Signor Marconi's triumph - that is, that both the men who have come into great prominence as inventors in the first year of the new century are Latins. Doubtless the Press of France, Italy, and Spain will have plenty to say with regard to this in connection with Lord Salisbury's reported remark about "decaying races."

Safe seats in Scotland

From Mr Robin Squire, MP for Hornchurch (Conservative)

Sir, May I gently chide Julian Haywood for his comments last Friday (feature, December 13) that "Of the Tories' 21 Scottish seats only... Dumfries looks safe". He is overstating the case, based on recent Scottish opinion polls, where we are running level second with the Alliance.

Nevertheless, Scotland is but one of the major situations where the Tory Party would actually gain from adopting proportional representation. At the last general election Conservatives attracted 28.4 per cent of the Scottish vote (broadly proportionate to seats won) whilst the Alliance gained eight seats with 24.5 per cent. As usual, the Labour Party was over-represented at the expense of the Alliance.

Quite a modest switch of support between Tories and Liberal/SDP next time could easily result in their respective totals of seats won being reversed, leaving the Scottish Tories to suffer from the usual third-party squeeze. Another Conservative Government would then be scant comfort for my Scottish party friends!

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN SQUIRE (Chairman, Conservative Action for Electoral Reform),
House of Commons,
December 14.

Second best

From Mr Colin le Messurier

Sir, Wherever can a woman carry her credit card, if not in her handbag together with her cheque book?

A small hole in the card would allow it to be worn on a string round her neck and under her corset, where it would be less likely to be snatched.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN LE MESSURIER,
Linslade,
Gaviots Way,
Gerrards Cross,
Buckinghamshire,
December 11.

British
TELECOM


You'll never see its replacement.

You'll be seeing less and less of this familiar feature of the British landscape.

Because British Telecom is replacing technology you can see with technology you can't see. Technology like fibre optics, making your National Call quicker, clearer and more reliable. Technology which allows us to transmit not

only speech at the speed of light, but text, data and pictures too.

Today, 42,500 miles of optical fibre are already in place. That's 15 times the length of the complete motorway system in the United Kingdom.

By 1988 British Telecom will have one of

the most comprehensive optical fibre networks in the world and the National Network, the backbone of our communications system, will be fully digital.

At British Telecom we're working to make your most valuable business tool, more valuable still.

NATIONAL CALL. INVESTING FOR YOUR FUTURE

السنة الأولى

THE TIMES
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
1	CASE	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
2	Atlantic Comp	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
3	Newman	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
4	Tunstall Telecom	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
5	Oxford Insurance	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
6	Eurotherm	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
7	Forrest	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
8	Logica	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
9	Chloride	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
10	Crystalline	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
11	INDUSTRIALS A-D	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
12	Br Vite	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
13	AAH	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
14	Bedlam	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
15	Continental Int	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
16	Cook (Wes)	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
17	RBA	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
18	Bridon	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
19	Bibby (H)	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
20	Brown & Tawse	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
21	Cope Atkins	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
22	FOODS	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
23	Unigate	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
24	Flaxley (Albion)	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
25	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
26	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
27	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
28	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
29	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
30	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
31	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
32	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
33	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
34	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
35	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
36	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
37	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
38	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
39	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
40	Reynolds Mac	100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Sunday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

INDEX-LINKED

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

BREWERIES

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Market drifts lower

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 9. Dealings End, Dec 20. Contango Day, Dec 23. Settlement Day, Jan 6.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

BUILDING AND ROADS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

FINANCE AND LAND

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

FOODS

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Telecom	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Waterways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0
100	95	British Airways	100	0	0.00	0.00	10.0

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Applause for Fowler from pensions people

There was an audible sigh of relief in the pensions industry (and in some corners, positive euphoria) when Norman Fowler revealed that the State Earnings Related Pensions Scheme is to be scaled down rather than abolished. Insurance company men skimming through the White Paper were pleased to see that Mr Fowler had listened to their complaints about the original pensions proposals and had included something for everyone - especially themselves.

At its root, the relief was due to a feeling that this set of reforms might achieve lasting political consensus. If the proposals make it into law, it does indeed seem unlikely that a future government of a different colour would disrupt the entire pensions system yet again to return it to its pre-Fowler condition.

These proposals end the protracted planning blight that has troubled the pensions industry for over a year allowing them to think ahead constructively.

Mr Fowler has bowed to the industry's objection that it could not possibly set up a new pensions system by 1987 to replace Serps.

The reform package requires less reorganization in the occupational schemes and Mr Fowler has in any case given the private sector until 1988 to prepare.

The proposals also remove potential extra costs for the providers of private pensions. There had been fears that a world without Serps would require a central pensions clearing house to handle the new portable pensions and that pension companies would have to pay for this. Now they will not.

The Department of Health and Social Security will handle the administration at its own expense.

Above all, the industry was uncertain that it could provide personal pensions for low-wage earners coming out of Serps at a commercial price. Now it will not have to. The lower-paid people - who benefit most from Serps because of its low costs - are those most likely to stay in the modified scheme. Pension companies can concentrate on selling more profitable (to them) personal pensions to the better paid.

Even the final salary occupational schemes, which might in the end have lost most from the abolition of Serps, should gain something from the new proposals.

The 2 per cent extra to be paid on contracted-out rebates for five years applies equally to occupational and personal schemes. This is effectively a free gift to employers. It may tempt more into offering final salary schemes, although it also applies to money purchase schemes.

Mr Fowler's White Paper shows clearly his commitment to introducing a system of personal portable pensions, while reducing the cost of Serps to the state. This time he appears to have achieved a system which the insurance industry believes it can make work. That is a fairly considerable achievement in itself, whatever else one might think of his plans.

Your word's your bond - official

History was made in the courts yesterday, when two former British Telecommunications shareholders were successfully sued for reneging on sales of BT shares. The cases were brought by Harvard Securities and appear to create an important precedent.

In the euphoric atmosphere surrounding the flotation of BT shares a year ago, many first-time investors agreed to sell the same shares over the telephone two or three times at successively higher prices, some not realizing that on each occasion they were entering into a binding contract.

The firms accepting such sale orders, usually licensed dealers rather than stockbrokers, have had difficulty in recovering their money.

They lost the difference between the price they agreed on the telephone and the price they had to pay to deliver the BT shares they had sold.

Some investors simply denied the transactions had ever taken place. But, providing the appropriate proofs are available, that avenue has been blocked. Harvard recovered £2,500 yesterday and claims to have further cases worth another £140,000 pending.

It will write to those "clients" pointing out the significance of yesterday's verdicts.

The sums in question are minor: Harvard turned over more than 120 million in BT shares before Christmas last year. This shows that most investors, whether first-time or not, acted honestly.

But an important lesson has been borne in on those who would try to plead ignorance of accepted practice in trading securities over the telephone.

Most leading stockbrokers had quickly taken steps to protect themselves from such chicanery, which is bluntly more trouble than it is worth. They decided to accept instruction only from established clients, or from those who could produce documentary evidence of their entitlement to the securities they were selling.

The episode is also a timely warning to those who are tempted to trade in the grey market, which now regularly springs up before dealings in popular new issues officially begin on the Stock Exchange.

There is no way of knowing whether an individual will be allocated any of the shares at that stage and it is highly risky to sell shares in the hope of receiving an allocation later.

Westland shareholders have right to know

Now that the politicians have had their big battle for Westland, the company is putting the finishing touches to its deal with Sikorsky and Fiat. But the people who should ultimately determine the fate of Britain's only helicopter company are surely its shareholders.

On Thursday, they are due to be told the awful details of the company's performance in the year to September and the plans for ensuring their company's survival. There has never been any doubt about the board's preferred solution, for Westland's reconstruction, but Mr Michael Heseltine did produce an alternative.

What has been glaringly omitted from the debate so far is any reference to figures and if shareholders are to decide on the best option for their company then perhaps they should be given the fullest information on both.

The majority of Westland's shareholders - some 75 per cent - are not the powerful institutions who can afford the occasional investment slip up, but private individuals.

In April, their board was telling them to fight off an £89 million bid from Mr Alan Bristow. A change of heart two months later came too late: Mr Bristow did not like what he had learnt of Westland's finances and walked away. Now the company's shares are suspended at a level which values it at less than £36 million.

In the interim, Westland has acquired a new and immensely able chairman in the shape of Sir John Cockney, who has no hesitation in publicly challenging the Defence Minister or Lord Weinstock. He has been categorical in his assertion that the link-up with Sikorsky of America is the right answer to Westland's problems.

When it comes to the extraordinary general meeting necessary to approve the reconstruction which arguments. But both the European and the American solutions appeared to involve a near 30 per cent of Westland being sold. Shareholders have a right to know on what terms both sides would be prepared to deal.

They have already seen one boardroom change of heart come too late.

Of tel clears new BT charges with warning on future rises

By Jeremy Warner
Business Correspondent

The Office of Telecommunications yesterday approved last month's increase in telephone charges by British Telecom, but gave a warning that in certain circumstances it would consider seeking changes in the price control rules.

These circumstances included any significant further increase in BT's rate of profits return on capital or "rebalancing" of prices beyond the point justified on economic grounds.

Professor Bryan Carsberg, director-general of telecommunications, said the increase was permissible under BT's licence and that he saw no reason to change the controls yet.

However, he added that the



Professor Carsberg: Local competition to be encouraged

situation would be kept under review and that in certain circumstances he would "consider very carefully the case for seeking an amendment to the

price control rules before the end of the five-year period for which they were first set".

BT recently said it would continue its policy of "rebalancing" tariffs by increasing some prices sharply, notably rentals, local calls and national calls over 35 miles, to offset reductions on long distance calls.

Professor Carsberg said that in deciding on future BT price increases he would take into account:

● The accounting methods used to identify costs attributable to rentals, local calls and long distance calls.

● The extent to which rentals should be cross-subsidized out of call revenues to encourage more subscribers, and thereby increase the value of the network to everyone.

● International comparisons of tariffs and costs.

The Office of Telecommunications would continue to consider what steps can be taken to encourage competition in local services giving particular attention to the potential of new cable television technology, Professor Carsberg said.

British Telecom is reducing its prices on long distance inland and international calls so as to meet competition from Mercury, the Cable and Wireless subsidiary fleet and by the Government to challenge the newly privatized corporation's monopoly.

To help to pay for these reductions it is increasing domestic rental charges and local call charges, which are unprofitable at present.

Industrial output down 0.3% in October

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Industrial production in Britain fell by 0.3 per cent in October, after a revised 1.7 per cent increase in September. The fall was mainly due to a drop in oil production, on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Manufacturing output picked up strongly, rising by 0.8 per cent in October, after a 0.2 per cent increase in September. Output in October was boosted by artificially high sugar and beer output, partly offset by a decline in car production.

Officials said that the trend for industrial output was flat. In the latest three months, industrial output was up by 0.5 per cent on the previous three-month period, but manufacturing output was up only 0.2 per cent.

However, large increases are still showing through on comparisons with last year. Industrial output in the August-October period was 5.5 per cent up on a year earlier. After allowing for the depressing effect of the coal strike on output last year, this increase is reduced to 2 per cent.

Manufacturing output in October was 3.4 per cent higher than in October last year.

The strongest sectors in the latest three months were food, drink and tobacco, and textiles and clothing, showing rises in output of 2 per cent compared with the previous three months.

Energy and water supply, up 1.5 per cent, reflected higher oil and coal output.

Oil pulled back overall industrial output in October, despite showing an actual rise in production. This is because North Sea oil output surged in September after the summer shutdown, and the subsequent rise in October was less than allowed for in the seasonal adjustment factors.

Bell promotion to cost several millions

By William Kay
City Editor

Guinness, the brewing and retailing group which took over Arthur Bell and Sons in the summer, is planning a multi-million pound advertising campaign for the ailing whisky business.

Mr Ernest Saunders, chief executive of Guinness, has asked several leading advertising agencies to present specimen campaigns early in the new year. The budget is understood to run into "several million pounds".

Bell already spends £3 million a year through the Scottish-based agency, Rex Stewart Associates. That will continue, and Stewart is among those asked to pitch for the new campaign.

This approach closely mirrors Mr Saunders' approach to Guinness advertising. On his appointment in 1981 he scrapped the famous toucan campaign and developed the "Guinness" theme, recently succeeded by the "Guinness Genius" line.

Improper to stop my return to Lloyd's, says Posgate

By Alison Eadie

Mr Ian Posgate, the suspended Lloyd's underwriter who was so successful he earned the sobriquet "Goldfinger", has issued a statement through his solicitors claiming it would be "improper, unreasonable and unfair" to prevent him from returning to work in the insurance market.

He confirmed that Mr Jeffrey Archer had agreed to act as one of his referees "in a private capacity and not as deputy chairman of the Conservative Party".

Mr Posgate's suspension, imposed through Lloyd's internal disciplinary procedures, runs out on January 8, but he must pass a "fit and proper person" test before being allowed to work again as an underwriter.

He has applied to be the underwriter of Syndicate 162, managed by R L Glover, a Lloyd's managing agent.



Ian Posgate: Critical of self-regulation

The statement said that the Lloyd's system of self-regulation could be thought unjust because a man's livelihood was determined by a ruling council which contains persons entitled to vote whose own commercial interests in Lloyd's would be likely to (or they might feel would be likely to) be prejudiced were Mr Posgate to be permitted to return to active underwriting.

Mr Posgate won many enemies in the insurance market through his refusal to join cartels and his rate-cutting practices.

The statement also said that Mr Posgate would take every measure to persuade Lloyd's and any other body concerned of the impropriety of preventing him from practising in the market.

Mr Posgate was cleared by Lloyd's of charges of misappropriating funds in the Alexander Howden scandal, but he was found guilty of accepting a gift of a Picasso painting as an inducement to place business with the Howden group, and of not disclosing his stake on the Banque du Rhone et de la Tamise.

Lord Wilberforce, head of Lloyd's appeals, quashed a sentence of expulsion and imposed two concurrent six-month suspensions.

The main points of such a plan, senior nations' cash flow problems, for compensating for falling prices for the region's principal exports and for financing.

The interest payments which debtor nations would have to make in the next two or three years.

Other delegates said that there was broad agreement that the continued high level of interest rates, the world commodity crisis and rising protectionism on world markets would be the subject of Cartagena group statements.

Several ministers have raised the possibility of a Latin American summit meeting of the region's presidents next year.

Delegates said there was significant agreement among the region's debtors that the Baker Plan, which proposes that commercial and multilateral lending institutions should increase loans to those heavily indebted nations which undertake structural reforms of their economies, is "a positive step, but insufficient to deal with the size of the crisis".

Señor Dante Caputo, Argentine foreign minister, said the tone of the Cartagena response to the Baker Plan would be "strong and serious". Out of the cash flows (to debtor nations) in the two or three years it would take industrial nations to adjust their economies and bring down interest rates.

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Tax changes 'threaten' UK exports

By Richard Thomson

Tax incentives on capital investment in Britain are among the worst in the industrial world because of changes introduced in last year's Budget, and this could seriously damage the country's competitive position internationally.

That is the conclusion of a study unveiled yesterday by the Equipment Leasing Association.

The study made by the accountants, Ernst and Whinney also claims that statements made last year by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, about changes in tax incentives were misleading.

The survey shows Britain's tax treatment of investment in plant and machinery as third from bottom of a list of nine industrialized countries. Only West Germany and Japan offer worse tax incentives.

In 1982, Britain had one of the most generous tax structures for capital investment. That was destroyed by the change from 100 per cent write-off within one year to 25 per cent of the reducing balance each year.

The E.L.A. claims Mr Lawson's assurance that allowances for plant and machinery in the United Kingdom would be broadly comparable with other countries is not the case.

Guardian Royal acquires 6.65% stake in Plessey

Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance has 6.65 per cent of the ordinary shares of Plessey, the electronics and defence equipment company which last week rejected a £1.18 billion bid from The General Electric Co.

Guardian Royal, announcing the stake yesterday said it had been buying Plessey shares since July for its own portfolio and

for members of pension fund and unit trust schemes. It had bought the shares "purely as an investment" because it considered Plessey shares had been underperforming.

GEC's bid values Plessey shares at around 163p, the offer being a mix of one of shares and cash. Plessey shares ended the day unchanged at 176p. GEC shares were down 2p at 168p.

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Guinness Peat lifts profits and Arrow bid

Guinness Peat Group yesterday raised the terms of its offer for Britannia Arrow, the fund management and banking group, and announced an increase in pretax profits of 67 per cent for the year to September 30.

The rise from £10.5 million to £17.5 million, more than £17 million profit forecast, when GPG first bid for Britannia. Both the insurance broking and investment banking operations showed increased profits though improved income from associated US companies was wiped out by currency fluctuations.

The offer for Britannia was increased by 10p on both the share and cash options, valuing Britannia shares at 150.6p at Friday's closing prices.

The position was confused by an announcement from Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, that he had bought more than one per cent of GPG shares.

Tempus, page 17

IN BRIEF GM stalks Logica

General Motors, the American car group, is expected to bid for Logica, the computer software house, GM, which owns Vauxhall in this country, yesterday issued a statement talking about a "possible business combination" between its Electronic Data Systems offshoot and Logica.

The stock market and Logica immediately interpreted the GM announcement as signalling an intended bid approach.

Logica shares gained 1 1/2p to 145p on the news. They came to market two years ago at 220p and have since been as high as 445p. But problems on the group's office automation side has hit the shares.

Logica has been the subject of takeover rumours for some time. British Telecom has been rumoured as a likely bidder.

Market report, page 17

EEC ministers to discuss tin

A rapid solution to the tin crisis, now approaching its third month, hangs on today's meeting in Brussels of European Community finance ministers. The ministers are due to discuss proposals put to the International Tin Council by banks and metal brokers. The banks' proposals have reduced the proposed funding for the ITC from £550 million to £340 million.

But the banks still insist that their principal be repaid and have dismissed a compromise whereby all parties would share losses.

Tin trading will remain suspended on the London Metal Exchange until Friday, when the exchange is due to review the situation.

French Kier bid for Abbey fails

French Kier's bid for Abbey, the Dublin householder, failed after Kier received 41.17 per cent acceptance. Of those 36.4 per cent were from Mr Stanislaus and Mr Patrick Gallagher, members of the controlling family. The chairman of Abbey, Mr Charles Gallagher, voted his near 30 per cent stake against the bid.

Kier is fighting a £13 million bid from CH Beazer, the Bath householder and contractor. Today is the first closing date.

The Edinburgh stockbroker Wishart Brodie & Co will join the stockbroker Laing & Crickshank, part of Alexander Laing & Crickshank Holdings, the investment banking division of Mercantile House Group.

Lift for AE

AE, the automotive component company, lifted profits from £17.3 million to £22.6 million before tax in the year to September 30. Turnover fell from £398 million to £383 million. The final dividend is up from 2.5p to 3p.

Tempus, page 17

Mas premium

Shares of the Malaysian airlines system (Mas) closed at 2.45 ringgits against its issue price of 1.80 ringgits on the first day of listing on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange.

A proposed joint venture between Imperial Chemical Industries and Enichem SpA's Enichem Elastomers unit is up to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The companies want to collaborate on vinyl chloride and polyvinyl chloride.

Property deal

Guest Keen & Nealefields has sold the freehold of its 90,000sqft London offices at 32 Kingsway, near Holborn, for £12.3 million to a consortium put together by Richard Ellis, the estate agent. The Department of the Environment, occupying three floors, has taken a new 25-year lease at a rent of £1.14 million a year.

Up by more than 28%

NET ASSET VALUE INCREASES
FROM £412m TO £504m

	1985 £'000	1984 £'000
Turnover	9,327	7,448
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	2,612	2,028
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	1,774	1,668
Dividends	626	519
Earnings per Share	27.8p	38.4p
Dividend Cover	2.8 times	32 times

Hardanger Properties PLC

Copies of the Report & Accounts are available from Hardanger Properties PLC, Messrs House & Church Street, Worcester D10 2AD.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Howard Hotel, Temple Place, The Strand, London WC2R 2PH on 16th January 1986 at 12.00 noon.

**"There is a lot more to go for
in SGB than in BET."**

FIELDING, NEWSON-SMITH & CO
Stockbrokers. 5th Dec 1985

**"SGB shareholders should
hang on."**

INVESTORS CHRONICLE
13th Dec 1985

**"...the BET offer is an
inadequate reflection of
SGB's worth and investors
should reject the offer."**

BUCKMASTER & MOORE
Stockbrokers. 5th Dec 1985

We have already reported record results:

- pre-tax profits up 23 per cent for the year ended September 1985.
- record pre-tax profits up by at least 33 per cent for the current year.
- dividends up, first by 19 per cent, then by 33 per cent.

In the current year, our earnings are forecast to grow at least 40 per cent. We do not believe BET can match this.

No wonder more and more experts believe the BET offer is a bad deal. Reject the bid.

SGB

WE BUILD BUSINESSES

The Directors of SGB (with the exception of Mr N L Clifford-Jones owing to illness) are the persons responsible for the information contained in this advertisement, although in the case of the information concerning BET Public Limited Company and its subsidiary and associated companies, they are responsible only for its accurate reproduction from published sources. Subject to that, to the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors of SGB (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this advertisement is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. The Directors of SGB accept responsibility accordingly.

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

IBM pulls the shutters down

IBM has set the seal on a grim year for high street microcomputer retailers by closing seven of its eight stores around Britain, writes David Guest. It will keep only its shopfront on Wigmore Street in London's West End.

Operations elsewhere in London, in Scotland and in Manchester, Birmingham and Croydon will be merged with less visible IBM marketing establishments from the beginning of January.

IBM describes the move as "part of a rationalization programme". It comes at the end of a year that has seen the Byt Shop chain change hands, the Intertec Network chain of franchised stores disintegrate, and an estimated two personal computer dealers a week go out of business.

The Wigmore Street shop has been open since 1979, selling not only personal computers but more generally office equipment and supplies. The other stores date from between 1981-84.

Where personal computers are concerned, IBM stores in recent months have represented official price levels while authorized IBM dealers have used extensive discounting to entice

Stars in the academics' eyes

THE WEEK

Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The journey to the moon produced the non-stick frying pan as a spin-off from the materials research into protective heat shields for manned spacecraft. It might seem a bit early to ask what domestic gadgets such as, say, three dimensional television, could come from the £2,000 million to be spent on Star Wars research.

More seriously, of course, the first space race was the stimulus for the exploitation of the transistor from laboratory to industry, with the consequent revolution for computers and communications technology. As a diversion over the Christmas period, someone with an inventor's turn of mind might speculate on the revolution to come from the new space research into electromagnetic and particle beams or advanced electrochemical power sources.

But there are some more directly relevant questions. For example, if a computer programmer produces 50 lines of checked and tested code a day, and that figure is above the average, how many will it take to produce 1,000 million lines of code? That volume will be generated in the development of the software for the space-based defence system.

Similarly, what is the probability that

the 10 million lines of code comprising the final operating software for the Star Wars network will be free of errors? Questions of this kind are in the minds of many computer scientists in Britain, who, from this week, now have an address at which to apply for research money for projects connected with Star Wars: it is SDI Office, Ministry of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall, London.

The first contract awarded to the UK since the British Government became the first of the Nato partners to support President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative is shared between Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, and Ferranti. It is worth £194,000, and covers research on optical computers.

Before the Star Wars initiative began to lend the sort of stimulus to research that the original space race generated, only a handful of adventurous scientists were experimenting with the possibility of optical computers. Professor Desmond Smith's team at

Heriot-Watt is a recognized world leader.

His group has shown a laboratory version of some of the components that would form an optical computer. Referred to as transphors, which are the optical equivalent of the early transistors, these devices switch pulses of light rather than pulses of electricity. Thus, complete machines would be photonic computers, because they are handling photons of light, rather than electronic computers, which are using electron flow.

The attractions of optical computing is explained in a briefing paper of the Strategic Defence Initiative Organisation, at the Pentagon, in Washington. It says: "Optical computing is conceptually capable of extremely high speeds, of massive parallelism and of inherent hardness to radiation from a nuclear explosion." In a general introduction to the range of work necessary to achieve Ultra High Speed Computing, the paper says "space-based defence systems will create a demand for software and hardware performance orders of magnitude beyond currently available technology".

The reasons for the immense leap being demanded in computer power is then listed. "The range of computing

requirement is extremely wide including such fundamental functions as large space structure control, control of a large, complex communication network, ultra high resolution image processing, adaptive digital electronic countermeasures, synthetic aperture radar, targeting and fire control and navigation."

We are indebted to a review by Mike Bayliss of Floating Point Systems, one of the small band of the super technology firms making high speed computers running into a million pounds, which puts these goals into perspective.

His comparison of the half dozen world contenders in this field shows that the most powerful machines today operate at about 500 million operations a second, and fundamental advances in components would be needed to push the threshold to the aims of Star Wars machines.

The American SDI specialists say the "thrust in software research is for 10 million lines of error-free code. Given present language and software development tools this goal is not achievable. We, therefore, seek to achieve the process by which large-scale software systems get developed".

Committ aid for students in EEC

By Stephen Arkell

New EEC plans aimed at promoting links between the computing industry and academic institutions could prove difficult to work in practice, says Dr Ewan Page, former president of the British Computer Society and vice-chancellor at Reading University.

A £30 million scheme, approved by EEC social affairs ministers earlier this month will run for four years from 1987 with an option for renewal in the fourth year.

Dubbed the Committ (Community in Education and Training for Technology) programme, it is expected to help more than 10,000 computer science and electronics students gain a six-month place in industry in another EEC country.

Details of how the scheme will work will be decided over the coming year, but it is likely to prove popular - the European Commission in London has already received more than 70 letters from UK students asking for funding.

Committ will also fund exchanges between academic staff and hi-tech employers, but whether companies will be willing to let key staff go is another matter, says Dr Page. The general principle will probably gain support, "but it's a bit early to see how it's going to work. One of the stumbling blocks towards these kind of exchanges has always been who's going to do the chap's work while he's away."

We know that there will be problems in the substitution of the individual who's going to be moved. There's such a great shortage of skilled people in the industry."

But Dr Page thought it would be wrong to pour cold water on the scheme before it had even got off the ground. "It would be wrong to give any impression of not welcoming it, but there are reservations," he added.

Elsewhere in the computing industry the reaction has been one of relief that anything at all is being done to ease the current skills crisis. Gordon Ewan, director of the Computing Services Industry Training Council (COSIT), says he would be prepared to back any initiative aimed at solving the problem, although he thought that there could be more efficient ways of tackling it.

"There's more mileage in looking at the best practice in this country," he says. "Cultural differences make it hard for us to import training practices." He says a similar scheme has been operated on a limited scale for some time. "But it was so limited we didn't bother with it," he added.

The Department of Education and Science, which is pumping £6 million into Committ, was cagey on the question of whether the UK hi-tech industry had more to offer European students than other countries had to offer the UK.

Stephen Arkell was named news journalist of the year in the UK Computer Press Awards.

Can Rambo clean up software profits?

By Geoff Wheelwright

Would you let your children play with John Rambo? He is the fictional machine-gunning-wielding American Vietnam veteran whose savage celluloid attacks on Vietnamese villages won Sylvester Stallone's *Rambo: First Blood Part II* a controversial place in the cinema's big-time earnings table.

Certain sectors of the computer game industry are hoping that you will, although many children who buy the game would be too young to be allowed to see the film in the cinema.

But the adult nature of the film which spawned the game (and by extension the game itself) does not seem to have harmed sales. Ocean Software's *Rambo* computer game was released in Britain last month and by the end of the first week in December was already number three in the computer games top 50 best-sellers chart.

It is an exception. Many computer software houses have desperately been turning to the cinema industry to buy "character licenses" in the hope that games about movie characters will revive their flagging fortunes.

The trouble is that many of the licences they buy are not only for adult films - such as Palace Video's *The Evil Dead* (a particularly gory teenage horror film) - but that they do not necessarily guarantee success.

First orders for a game may well be boosted by having a great deal of hype and controversy, but they fade quickly if the game is not stunning.

The likelihood of a good game coming out of a licensed product is often small anyway, as the need to pay for character licensing means that the game sometimes is not that good. When 15 per cent or more of the profits are going to be tied up in royalty payments to a film company and a low price must be maintained in order to gain distribution for the game, there is not a lot of money left to spend on getting good programmers for the job.

It does not help, of course, if the film your game is connected with does not do well at the box office. The Argus Software game of Paul McCartney's *Give My Regards to Broad Street* was

technically good, but the film failed at the box office - and sales of the game were said to have suffered as a result.

But the temptation to use a character licence must be huge. Distributors are becoming increasingly wary of taking on new computer games as the market matures and growth slows - and anything that attracts attention can not be bad for the software houses.

But the movie business is not the only entertainment medium ripe for character licensing. Everybody from Roland Rat to Terry McCann has been plucked for one or another type of TV-based computer game - with Channel Four's computerized corpse, Max Headroom, rumored to be the next (probably the most appropriate) computer game licence ever negotiated.

When the IBM standard flies over every computer installation in the land, Apple will still be remembered for its humble origins. The Tandon

Stop the brain drain with more garages

By David Guest

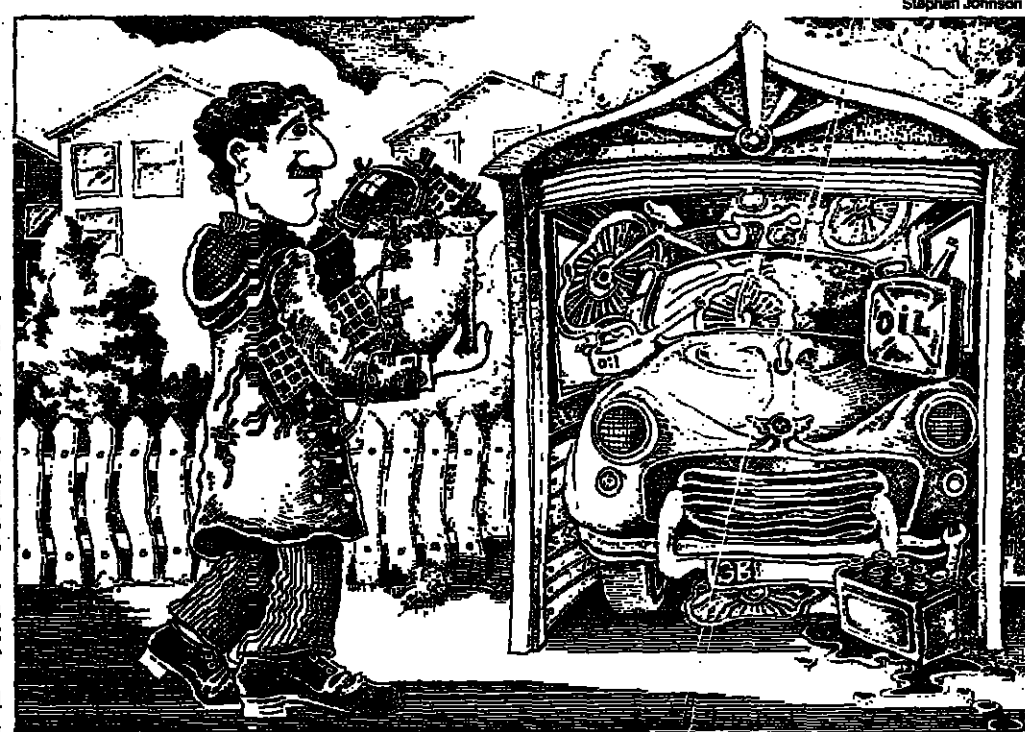
In 1986, Britain faces a further decline towards second-class citizenship in the world's computer industry.

Frozen out of the largest foreign markets, the UK industry is under siege in its own backyard. Colonial status beckons. How can it be that the country that gave the world Leo Atlas, Sir Clive Sinclair's ZX81 and the Apricot has arrived at such a pretty pass?

The answer is startlingly simple: garages. Britain has never had garages in sufficient quantities to spawn a healthy computer industry.

All those years of research, all those millions spent on ICL, Ferranti, ICL, IT - indeed on almost anything that begins with an I - have missed this crucial fact. Without garages in the right place at the right time, Britain was always doomed to struggle.

Surely, the evidence is overwhelming. Apple Computer, the boy-racer of the microcomputer business, started life in a garage. When the IBM standard flies over every computer installation in the land, Apple will still be remembered for its humble origins. The Tandon



Corporation, purveyor of fine disk drives, started life in a garage. Hewlett-Packard's first printed circuit boards were baked in Bill Packard's oven - no need to ask where they were assembled.

In the UK, over the same time span, the garages of the country were sheltering a series of worthy but, in a data-processing context, useless motor cars. This obsession led in the late 1960s to the car-port boom; whoever heard of a computer

company starting off in a car-port? The conflicting pressures on garage space are best illustrated by the case of Lord Montagu de Beaulieu. His Lordship owns some of the finest vehicles in the kingdom, but he never designed a computer in his life.

To this day, the ambitious computer science graduate leaves university with no higher expectation than a bed-sitting room with on-street parking; he applies himself diligently to

the drudgery of his first job (or if he enjoys an independent income) he may eventually aspire to a basement flat.

Later in life, a two-up, two down terraced house may not be beyond his horizons, but the garage almost certainly will. It will be in a block of garages 200 yards away, and it will lack electricity and plumbing.

All the time, a window of opportunity is closing. Defeatists will argue that Californian garage proprietors enjoy a priori advantages. No doubt a garage in Palo Alto is a more hospitable place than a garage in Manchester in December.

But all that is lacking is the political will. The health of the computer industry is vital to the country's future, and the Government must act. Hitherto it has shown no inclination to tackle the garage problem. Meanwhile, a generation of British inventors has been forced to look for garage space overseas, a process known as the brain drain. There is no reason to suppose that this hemorrhaging is about to be staunch.

Banks set for spending spree

By Kevin Pearson

The high street banks and building societies are gearing themselves up for a huge spending spree on computers and communications technology for the future. Three of the big four high street banks have announced major plans for data communications networks.

Barclays is to spend £40 million on a new network. Lloyds and National Westminster have announced similar plans.

The main reasons given by the banks for such huge investments is the move offering more on-line services at branches, extending the services on the familiar automatic teller machines.

One reason the banks are spending so much on technology is to offer reliable computer based services. Many Barclays and Lloyds customers have seen recently what happens when the banks' computers fail: the machines do not work. The banks cannot afford

to have that happen when they start to offer more computer based services from the branches and possibly into homes.

The clearing banks are already among the biggest users of information technology in the UK today. Banking union sources say Barclays spends about £150 million on computers.

Barclays' new network will be "largely used for internal data communications", said a spokesman. It replaces several older and separate networks that link the branches with the company's main computers where account details are handled.

But the networks will also provide connection to other networks such as the London Clearing Bank's Committee electronic funds transfer/paid of sale network, that IBM is working on. This network will link stores and retailers directly with the banks' computers and could eventually provide home shopping for bank customers.

But behind the move to highly computerized banking at the branches, there are the opportunities and threats that are coming to light as a result of the de-regulation of the City and other financial markets due in 1986.

In order to compete with the US banks and financial services companies such as Salomon Brothers and Merrill Lynch, the banks will need all the hi-tech banking they can get.

But the threat is not only from the US banks. IBM could enter the financial services market, too. It is already involved with Merrill Lynch in a joint venture in the US providing financial information to stock brokers. And although that project was cut back earlier this year, there is still much speculation concerning further plans in the financial sector.

Hence the UK banks will have to watch out: IBM is their biggest supplier now. In the future it could become a significant competitor in some of their newer markets.

Use a PC to fill the gaps in teletext

By Simon Craven

Serious applications for Britain's teletext broadcasts are being made possible by the use of personal computers to overcome many of the limitations inherent in the system. Teletext, which is broadcast over current TV channels, can be received and displayed with nothing more sophisticated than a television set with some added decoding circuitry.

Other videotex services which use the telephone, such as Prestel and some private networks, can give the user two-way communication and a user can go straight to any item of information he or she needs by entering the appropriate page number. But with telephone charges such systems can be expensive.

The two teletext services, Oracle from the ITV companies and Channel 4, and the BBC's Ceefax, are more limited in scope. They broadcast each page of information in strict rotation, so waiting for your TV to "grab" a particular frame can be frustrating.

One solution, developed by Electron Systems, is the use of an IBM PC or compatible computer in conjunction with a peripheral which takes Oracle pages off the air through a normal TV aerial and puts the text into the computer.

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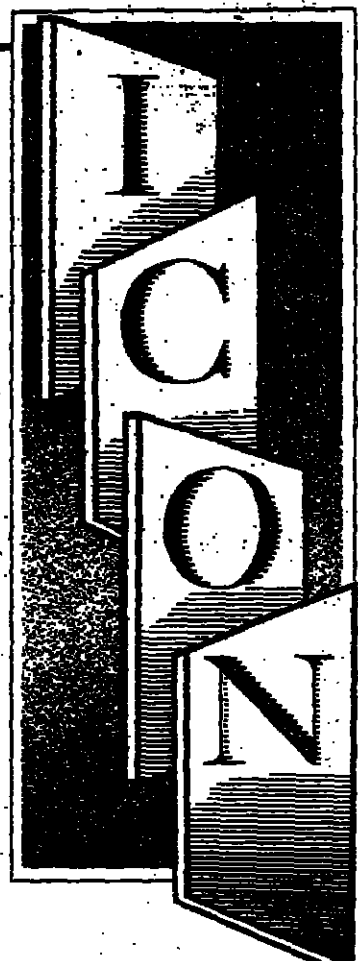
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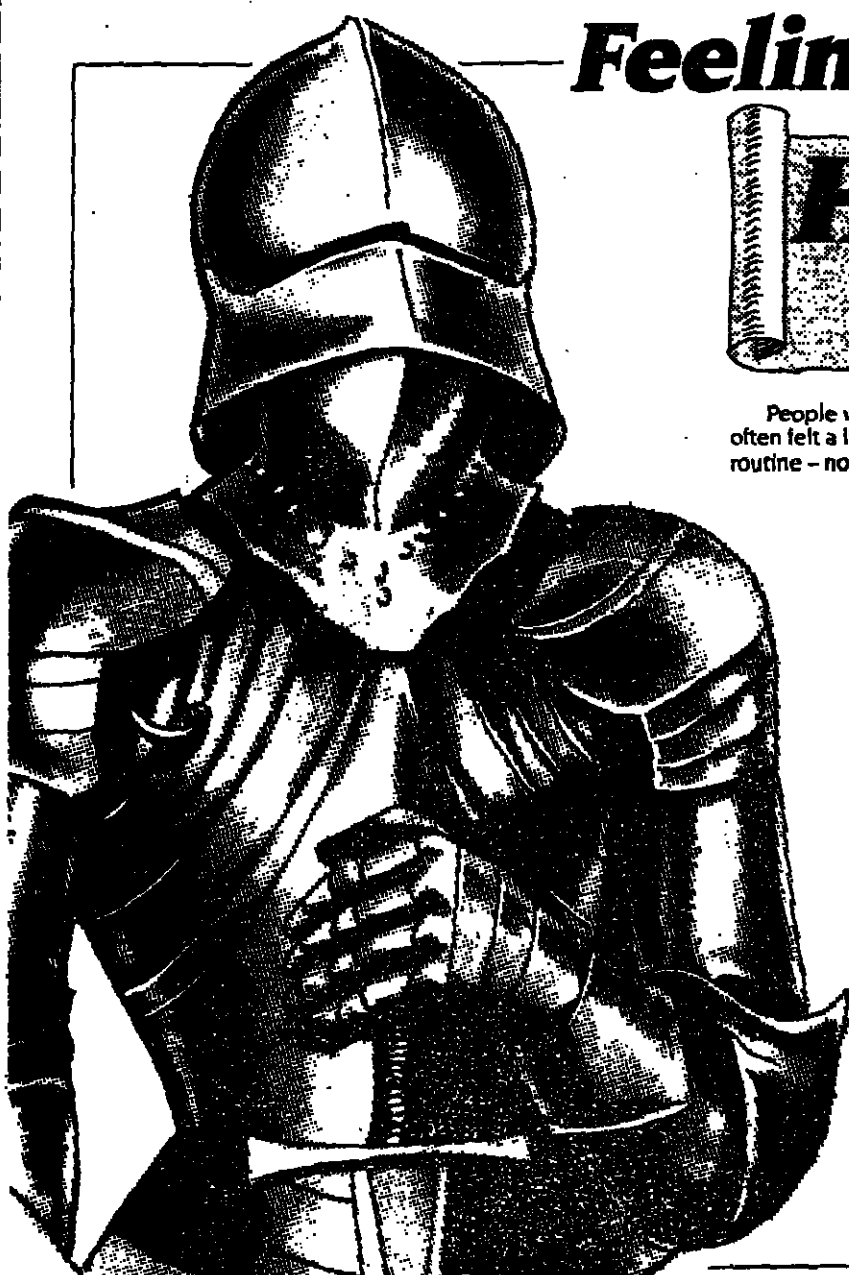
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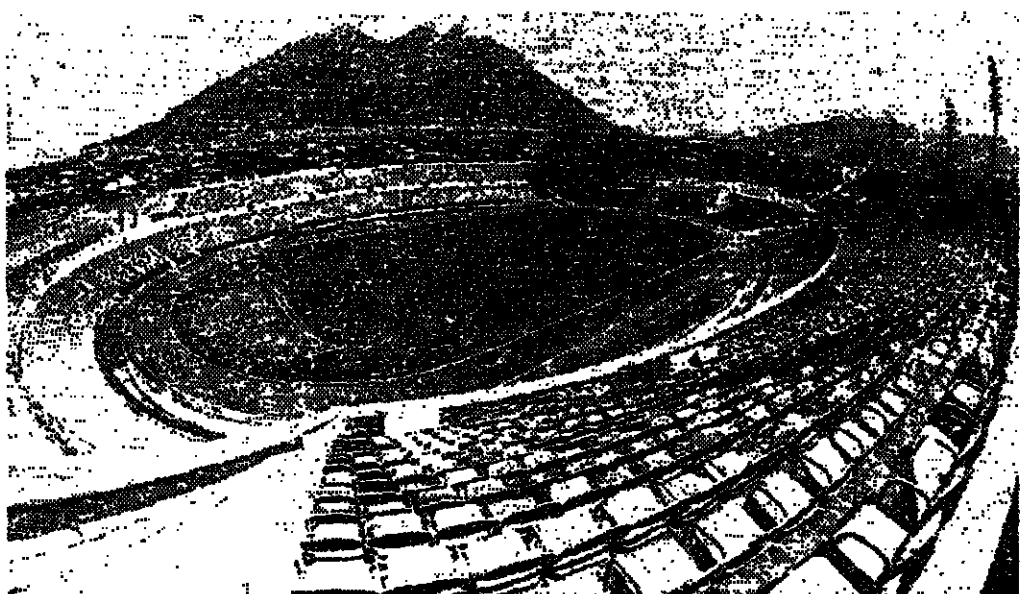
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England manager needs to befriend the citizens of Monterrey to avoid any animosity.



Monterrey's technological stadium, where England play two of their opening games in one of the six groups in Mexico

Reactions to opponents, venues and climate

TERRY BUTCHER (England defender): "In Bilbao in 1982 we learned to cope with the red hot heat there. As we can get a good start in Monterrey, as we did in Spain, then hopefully the rest of the qualifying games will go as well."

RAY WILKINS (England mid-fielder): "I think we have to be quite pleased with the teams we have drawn. Where you play doesn't really matter too much, conditions are going to be different wherever you are."

"The third qualifying place is there if things don't go quite right early on, but I honestly think that if we have the right preparation there is no reason why we should not go through."

ZBIGNIEW BONIEK (Poland forward): "For us the venue of our matches will be a bigger problem than the teams we will have to play against."

ALEX FERGUSON (Scotland manager): "Once again we have drawn the short straw. This is the hardest possible group. Denmark was the team we wanted to avoid at all costs."

"After France, I reckon the Danes are the best side in Europe, with West Germany probably next in line. I also understand that Uruguay are currently the form side in South America. So clearly we have it all to do."

HORST KOEPPEL (West Germany team coach): "We drew the most difficult group of all. Even from what was supposed to be the easiest group, we drew Denmark, one of the World Cup favourites. Every team can beat the others in this group."

MARTIN O'NEILL (Northern Ireland manager): "If you want a nice time and some enjoyable matches, it's a good draw for us. But if you make progress, it's a nasty little group - though not as bad as Scotland's."

BILLY HAMILTON (Northern Ireland forward): "It's a tough group, but it's every player's dream to turn out against Brazil, and tuck one of their shirts in the drawer."

JORNAL DO BRASIL (Brazilian newspaper): "Brazil is all smiles. Officials, coaches, players, sportswriters and fans are certain of our qualifying for the second round. Now all we need is a team."

ALI BERGAN (Algerian captain): "Against Brazil, we will have to play without an inferiority complex - as we did against West Germany in Spain. Spain has a Mediterranean style close to ours. As for Northern Ireland, they are not that formidable."

JOEL BATTS (French goalkeeper): "I think France would have had a hard time against Canada and Soviet Union if it had been the ice hockey World Cup."

IVAN VUTZOV (Bulgaria manager): "The next world champions will come from South America."

GYORGY BOGNAR (Hungary winger): "I was disappointed in 1954 during his side's 2-0 defeat by Mexico in the final of a tournament tournament there on Saturday: "Never in my life have I felt so bad. I felt as if I had 1,000 needles in my lungs."

Robson on a diplomatic mission

DETAILS OF MEXICO PROGRAMME

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Bobby Robson must now act as a diplomat as well as England's manager. His principal duty will be to befriend the citizens of Monterrey, who are reported to have been hurt by his statement that their home was the one place he wanted to avoid in Sunday's World Cup draw and the Mexicans in general.

Last summer's tour as much of a public relations exercise as a physical experiment, was an undoubted success. But Robson's comment, understandable in private but unfortunate in public, may have endangered the spirit of harmony and threatened to renew the atmosphere of animosity that existed between England and the local populace during the tournament in 1970.

Sir Alf Ramsey, who took England on a similarly exploratory expedition the previous year, failed to win the affections of either the press or the people in Mexico who his brusque indifference. As a result his side, hailed as "a team of drunks and thieves", lost the support of Guadalajara, their base in the first round.

While the fate of the draw has been cruel to England, and to Scotland, it has been kind to Northern Ireland just as it was in the World Cup draw four years ago. In 1982 the Irish were invited initially to join the hosts in a group that stayed near the beaches on the east coast of Spain.

Next summer, Billy Bingham's party will be staying with the Spaniards again, along with the Brazilians and Algerians, near Guadalajara, where they will play all of their first-round matches.

The temperature in Guadalajara is 75 degrees on average in June, but can rise dramatically. In the 1970 tournament, for example, England walked into an oven that had been turned up to 98 degrees to meet Brazil. At the end of their 1-0 defeat, the Scots were told that each of Sir Alf Ramsey's players had lost at least 10lb in weight.

England, trapped in the humid and smog-ridden air of Bilbao in 1982, could suffer even more severely in six months. Monterrey, described as "The Hell of Mexico", is some 10 degrees hotter and more than 5,000 feet lower than any of the other centres. Bobby Robson caused a diplomatic stir last week by calling it "the rough diamond in a collection of gems".

During last summer's tour Robson said that "it would be impossible for a team based in Monterrey to win the World Cup", although he now claims he cannot remember making such a statement. England will stay in the surrounding mountains and, like the Irish, play all of their three games against Portugal, Morocco, and finally Poland, in Monterrey.

The Scots have not only been thrown into the toughest group, as they were in 1982, but they must also travel between two arenas that are 150 miles away from each other. They will open against Denmark in Nezahualcoyotl.

They will then go west to Queretaro, some three hours away by road, to take on West Germany in the only new stadium built by the Mexicans since 1970, and return to Nezahualcoyotl to meet Uruguay, the one consolation for the Scots is that they should be performing in relatively cool temperatures.

Bingham, who is to take his Irishmen across to Monterrey to prepare for the tournament, sees the draw as "absolutely excellent. I was in Guadalajara two and a half years ago for the World Youth Cup and know it well, so I was hoping we would end up there."

He is looking forward particularly to their closing group fixture, against the golden Brazilians, on June 12. "It will be David against Goliath, but meeting them last gives us plenty of time to warm up. They will allow us to play football and that will give us a chance." The Brazilians disagree.

Mendrado Dias, the president of the Brazilian FA, said: "The group presents no difficulties. I see us following the victorious path we took in 1970." Pele, who led them to glory 15 years ago, said that: "God has begun to help Brazil."

The Irish players were less optimistic than their manager. "The heat in Guadalajara is absolutely unbearable," Armstrong commented, "and the other three will all be used to it. Somebody is going to have to come up with something sensational for us."

Armstrong feels that the Irish may have to "creep into the

Group matches

Top two in each group and the four best third-placed teams qualify for second round knock-out phase

MAY 31: Group A: Italy v Bulgaria (Aztec Stadium, Mexico City, noon, Mexico time, 7.0pm BST).

JUNE 2: Group C: France v Mexico (Aztec Stadium, Mexico City, noon, Mexico time, 7.0pm BST).

JUNE 2: Group A: Argentina v South Korea (Aztec Stadium, Mexico City, noon, Mexico time, 7.0pm BST).

JUNE 2: Group B: Mexico v Belgium (March Stadium, Guadalajara, noon, Mexico time, 7.0pm BST).

JUNE 2: Group D: Poland v Portugal (University Stadium, Monterrey, 4.0, 11.0).

JUNE 2: Group E: Paraguay v Iraq (Toluca, noon, 7.0). Group F: England v Uruguay (Queretaro, noon, 7.0). Group G: Denmark (Neza Stadium, Mexico City, 4.0, 11.0).

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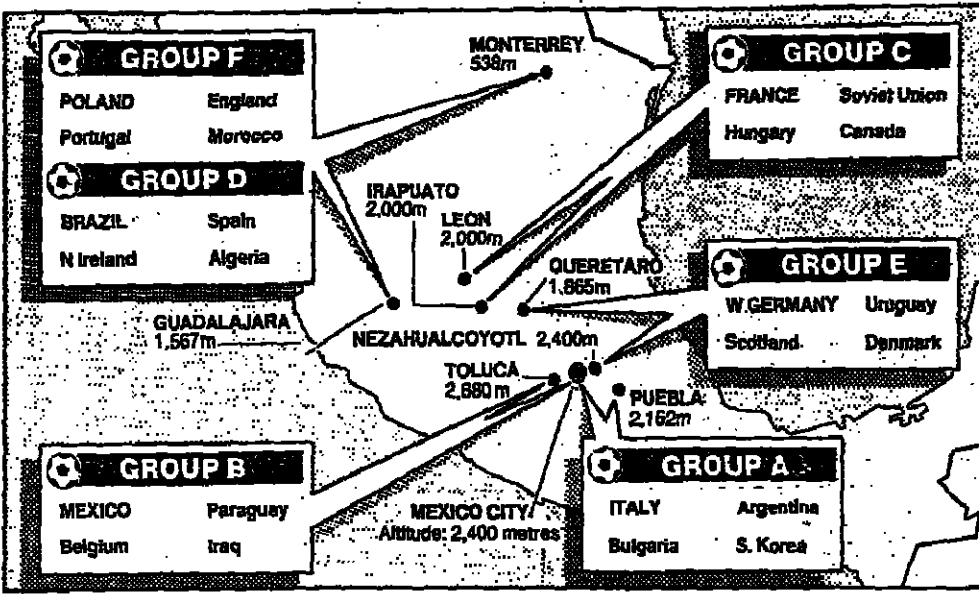
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Monterrey's technological stadium, where England play two of their opening games in one of the six groups in Mexico

Robson on a diplomatic mission

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Bobby Robson must now act as a diplomat as well as England's manager. His principal duty will be to befriend the citizens of Monterrey, who are reported to have been hurt by his statement that their home was the one place he wanted to avoid in Sunday's World Cup draw and the Mexicans in general.

Last summer's tour as much of a public relations exercise as a physical experiment, was an undoubted success. But Robson's comment, understandable in private but unfortunate in public, may have endangered the spirit of harmony and threatened to renew the atmosphere of animosity that existed between England and the local populace during the tournament in 1970.

Sir Alf Ramsey, who took England on a similarly exploratory expedition the previous year, failed to win the affections of either the press or the people in Mexico who his brusque indifference. As a result his side, hailed as "a team of drunks and thieves", lost the support of Guadalajara, their base in the first round.

While the fate of the draw has been cruel to England, and to Scotland, it has been kind to Northern Ireland just as it was in the World Cup draw four years ago. In 1982 the Irish were invited initially to join the hosts in a group that stayed near the beaches on the east coast of Spain.

Next summer, Billy Bingham's party will be staying with the Spaniards again, along with the Brazilians and Algerians, near Guadalajara, where they will play all of their first-round matches.

The temperature in Guadalajara is 75 degrees on average in June, but can rise dramatically. In the 1970 tournament, for example, England walked into an oven that had been turned up to 98 degrees to meet Brazil. At the end of their 1-0 defeat, the Scots were told that each of Sir Alf Ramsey's players had lost at least 10lb in weight.

England, trapped in the humid and smog-ridden air of Bilbao in 1982, could suffer even more severely in six months. Monterrey, described as "The Hell of Mexico", is some 10 degrees hotter and more than 5,000 feet lower than any of the other centres. Bobby Robson caused a diplomatic stir last week by calling it "the rough diamond in a collection of gems".

During last summer's tour Robson said that "it would be impossible for a team based in Monterrey to win the World Cup", although he now claims he cannot remember making such a statement. England will stay in the surrounding mountains and, like the Irish, play all of their three games against Portugal, Morocco, and finally Poland, in Monterrey.

The Scots have not only been thrown into the toughest group, as they were in 1982, but they must also travel between two arenas that are 150 miles away from each other. They will open against Denmark in Nezahualcoyotl.

They will then go west to Queretaro, some three hours away by road, to take on West Germany in the only new stadium built by the Mexicans since 1970, and return to Nezahualcoyotl to meet Uruguay, the one consolation for the Scots is that they should be performing in relatively cool temperatures.

Bingham, who is to take his Irishmen across to Monterrey to prepare for the tournament, sees the draw as "absolutely excellent. I was in Guadalajara two and a half years ago for the World Youth Cup and know it well, so I was hoping we would end up there."

He is looking forward particularly to their closing group fixture, against the golden Brazilians, on June 12. "It will be David against Goliath, but meeting them last gives us plenty of time to warm up. They will allow us to play football and that will give us a chance." The Brazilians disagree.

Mendrado Dias, the president of the Brazilian FA, said: "The group presents no difficulties. I see us following the victorious path we took in 1970." Pele, who led them to glory 15 years ago, said that: "God has begun to help Brazil."

The Irish players were less optimistic than their manager. "The heat in Guadalajara is absolutely unbearable," Armstrong commented, "and the other three will all be used to it. Somebody is going to have to come up with something sensational for us."

Armstrong feels that the Irish may have to "creep into the

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EQUESTRIANISM

Merrimandias earns a rest after making merry despite injury

By Jenny MacArthur

Peter Charles, riding Merrimandias, who three weeks ago was out of action with a shoulder injury, relegated the experienced John Whitaker on the 17-year-old Ryan's Son to second place in yesterday's Crosse & Blackwell Power and Speed competition at the Olympia show jumping championships.

Merrimandias, an eight-year-old chestnut gelding owned by Cecil Williams, sustained the injury diagnosed as a suspected trapped nerve in his last month and it was only at the eleventh hour that Charles decided he was fit enough to compete at Olympia.

There was no sign yesterday that the horse was less than 100 per cent fit. He jumped authoritatively round the first eight fences - the "Power" section of the class, described by Harvey Smith as "plenty big enough" - and then galloped on round the timed second half of the course. They finished a fraction ahead of Whitaker who, despite the disadvantage of going second, had led for most of the class.

Charles, a former pupil of Ireland's Keltie and Edie MacLachlan, will rest Merrimandias and his top horse, April Sun, on whom he won the Brussels World Cup qualifier. "They've been on the go for 10 months, which is too long, really," Charles said, "but you've got to be qualified for a show when you go to it."

Although Charles, who was brought up in Liverpool and started riding at 15, is likely to qualify for the World Cup final in Sweden in April, he said that he may not go because April Sun is only seven and he is reluctant to face a young horse with such a big event so early in the new season.

David Broome, showing all the expertise which has kept him in the forefront of the sport for more than 25 years, provided the most exciting finish to a class which was when he won Sunday's Modern Alarm Stakes on a revitalised Mr. Rust.

Law Report December 17 1985 House of Lords

Foreign nationalization law is recognized in England

Williams & Humbert Ltd v W & H Trade Marks (Jersey) Ltd and Others
Rumasa SA and Others v Multinvest (UK) Ltd and Others
 Before Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Templeman and Lord Mackay of Clashfern
 (Speeches said December 12)

Three companies incorporated in Spain, and an English company owned by one of them, were not barred from claiming relief against defendants in the English courts by reason of the fact that by a Spanish law the shares of the Spanish companies had been compulsorily purchased by and vested in nominees of the Spanish state, because the relief claimed was neither an attempt to enforce a foreign law which was penal nor contrary to public policy, and pleadings based on such contentions therefore disclosed no reasonable defence.

The House of Lords so held, dismissing appeals by the defendants, W & H Trade Marks (Jersey) Ltd and six members of the Rumasa family, in the first action; and by the third defendant, Mr Jose Maria Ruiz-Mateos, in the second action, from the Court of Appeal who (Lord Justice Lloyd dissenting) (*The Times* April 22, 1985; [1985] 3 WLR 501) dismissed the appellants' appeal from Mr Justice Nourse (*The Times*, January 18, 1985).

Mr Mark Latham, QC, Mr Robert Reid, QC and Mr Simon Berry for the defendants in the first action; Mr Mark Latham, QC, Mr Robert Reid, QC and Mr W. R. Stewart Smith for the third defendant in the second action; Mr C. A. Brodie, QC, Mr Alan Steinfield and Mr Daniel Gerrans for the plaintiffs in both actions.

LORD TEMPLEMAN said that by a Spanish law which took effect on June 30, 1983, all the issued shares of Rumasa SA and of its Spanish subsidiaries had been compulsorily acquired by the Spanish Government and control of those companies vested in its representatives. In turn, Rumasa controlled Williams & Humbert Ltd, an English subsidiary.

Those now charged with the management of the Rumasa group claimed in the first action that while the Ruiz-Mateos family controlled Williams & Humbert through Rumasa, the Dry Sack trade mark had been improperly diverted from Williams & Humbert to a company formed in Jersey.

In the second action they alleged that the defendants, while in control of their Spanish subsidiaries, had improperly diverted sums amounting to US\$46 million from one of them.

The defendants having in each case denied the allegations sought to put forward the alternative defence that the plaintiffs' claims represented an attempt to enforce a foreign law which was penal, or which otherwise ought not to be

enforced by the English courts or that it would be contrary to public policy to grant the relief sought.

That pleading could be justified if English law abhorred the compulsory acquisition legislation of every other country, or if international law abhorred the compulsory acquisition legislation of all countries.

But, in fact, compulsory acquisition was universally recognized and practised, and in the United Kingdom the courts were bound to accept and enforce any compulsory acquisition authorized by Parliament and to recognize compulsory acquisitions by other governments subject only to limitations for the safeguarding of human rights.

On the other hand, no government had the power to change title to property situated outside its jurisdiction. But that territorial limitation was not relevant to the acquisition of shares in a company incorporated in the acquiring state.

By another (at present absolute) rule, one state would not enforce the revenue and penal laws of another state. It was doubtful whether the Spanish law of June 1983 could properly be described as a penal law for present purposes, but in any event the plaintiffs in either action were not seeking to enforce the Spanish law.

They were seeking to enforce English private law which could be invoked, subject to exceptions not here relevant, by a plaintiff of any nationality against any defendant within the jurisdiction and against any property within the jurisdiction.

The appellants submitted that the plaintiffs' actions constituted attempts by the Spanish Government indirectly to enforce their compulsory acquisition law. But that heretofore submission flew in the face of the distinction established in *Salomon v. Salomon & Co Ltd* (1897) AC 22 between an incorporated company's legal entity and its actions, assets, rights and liabilities on one hand, and the individual shareholders and their actions, assets, rights and liabilities on the other.

The English courts would recognize the compulsory acquisition law of a foreign state and would recognize the change of title to property which had come under the control of the foreign state and would recognize the consequences of that change of title.

The English courts would decline to consider the merits of compulsory acquisition. In their pleadings the appellants sought to attack the motives of the Spanish Government, and to allege oppression and bad faith on their part, in connection with the enactment and implementation of the compulsory acquisition law.

No English judge could properly entertain such an attack launched on a friendly state party to become a fellow member of the EEC, or which otherwise ought not to be

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Comptroller-general's power to limit imports of patented product

Regina v Comptroller-General of Patents Designs & Trade-Marks, Ex parte Gist-Brocades NV and Another
Allen and Hanburys Ltd v Generics (UK) Ltd
 Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Diplock, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brightman and Lord Templeman
 (Speeches said December 12)

The House of Lords delivered reasons for their declaration on July 31 (*The Times*, August 5) as to the extent of the powers of the Comptroller-General of Patents when settling the terms of a licence of right under section 35(2) of the Patents Act 1949 as applied to new existing patents by paragraph 4(2)(c) of Schedule 1 to the Patents Act 1977.

Their Lordships affirmed the order of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Lloyd (*The Times*, June 8, 1985)) in respect of an application to the comptroller-general to settle terms of a licence in respect of Allen & Hanburys Ltd's patent of the drug salbutamol, and affirmed in part the order of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Gifford and Mr Justice Glidwell (*The Times*, April 27, 1985)) in respect of Gist-Brocades NV's application for settlement of a licence in respect of Beecham Group plc's patent of the drug amoxycillin.

Mr Stephen Gratwick, QC, Mr Hugh Laddie and Mr David Kitchen for Beecham; Mr Roger Henderson, QC, Mr Antony Watson and Mr Guy Burkill for Allen & Hanburys; Mr Alastair J. D. Wilson for Gist-Brocades; Mr Jeremy Lever, QC, Mr Nicholas Pumfrey and Mr Richard Hacon for Generics; Mr Gerald Paterson for the comptroller-general.

LORD DIPLOCK, in a speech prepared before his death, observed that the Patents Act 1977, which provided that the period of any European patent was to be 20 years instead of the previous 16 years for UK patents, contained provisions dealing with existing patents that were so convoluted as to warrant the description "cryptic".

"New existing patents", those the date of which fell after June 1, 1967, had their period extended automatically from 16 to 20 years, but subject to the condition that licences of right were to be available during the extended period.

The question of immediate concern was whether the comptroller-general had a discretion under the 1977 Act to incorporate in such a licence of right, where the terms were settled by him, a prohibition or limitation upon the importation of the patented article by the applicant

for the licence, at any rate from a non-EEC country.

Any constraints upon the exercise of his discretion to do that, that could result from articles 30 and 36 of the EEC Treaty, were to be left aside for present purposes since it was to be the subject of a reference to the Court of Justice of the European Communities.

Since by section 53(4) a compulsory endorsement of a patent with "licences of right" had the same effect as a voluntary endorsement under section 46, recourse could be had to the grounds on which the comptroller-general was empowered to make a compulsory endorsement in order to identify the policy to the achievement of which Parliament intended the comptroller-general's exercise of his discretion to be directed.

A reading of section 48(3)(b) and (c) placed it beyond argument that the comptroller-general in settling the terms of a licence of right whether voluntary or compulsory, had a discretion to include a term prohibiting the importation into the UK of a patented product obtained by a patented process, or a term imposing limitations upon importation such as, for instance, a requirement of quality control.

That might well be appropriate in the public interest, particularly in the case of a licence of right in respect of a patented product. The existence of such a discretion and the likelihood of its being exercised was reflected in the parenthetical reference in paragraph (c) of section 46(3).

Although not immediately in issue, the comptroller-general's discretion to settle terms of licences of right which imposed limitations or conditions on what the licensee was authorized to do, was not restricted to limitations or conditions dealing with importation only.

Section 53(1) and (2) confirmed his Lordship's conclusion that the comptroller-general had a wide discretion as to the terms to be incorporated in a licence of right settled by him.

There was nothing in the 1977 Act which would prevent a licence of right to the patentee from applying to the comptroller-general to settle the terms, or which would make it unlawful for him to embark upon the procedure for doing so, before the effective date and so enable a licence of right in the terms so settled to come into force on the effective date.

Faced with the gap in time between the beginning of the seven-year period of the date likely to be some 12 months later, when the terms were settled by the comptroller-general, the majority of the Court of Appeal in the *Gist-Brocades* case sought to eliminate the temporal gap by holding that a licence of right took effect under

section 46(3) from the moment that application was first made to him.

That holding, which did not appear to be restricted to licences of right granted pursuant to paragraph 4(2)(c) of Schedule 1, would be of wide application. It was a question of construction of a domestic statute. It depended in no way on EEC law and their Lordships would not be overruling what they would not only be unjust but commercially nonsensical.

Another and simpler construction of the Act was that in the case of a licence of right, the question whether the applicant was to be the proceedings before the comptroller-general to settle any disputed terms could be started before the end of the six-month year.

Provision for timeous hearings to settle the terms of licences of right granted pursuant to that paragraph was likely to require some addition and amendments to the Patents Rules (SI 1978 No 218). The form they should take was a matter for the secretary of state. The aim should be, as far as that was practicable, to enable any disputed terms of licences of right under existing patents to be settled by the comptroller-general by the date when the extended four-year period began.

LORD BRIDGE agreed with Lord Diplock.

LORD FRASER and LORD BRIGHTMAN agreed but reserved their views on the question whether the comptroller-general had power to incorporate whatever limitations he thought proper in the terms of a licence. For the disposal of the appeals it was enough to decide that he had power to include a term prohibiting or limiting imports.

LORD TEMPLEMAN concurred with the orders made but was unable to agree that the comptroller-general had a wide discretion to impose limitations or conditions upon a licence of right. By section 46(3)(a) the applicant was entitled as of right to a licence to do those things for which he required a licence in order that he should not be restrained or found liable in damages under section 61 for an infringement under section 60.

No power was conferred on the comptroller-general to deny an applicant in whole or in part the licence which the applicant required or to impose conditions on the use of the invention for which the applicant was entitled to be licensed as of right. The comptroller-general, did, however, have power to prohibit or control importations.

Solicitors: Simmons & Simmons; Bristows Cooke & Carmichael; Lovell White & King; S. J. Berwin & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

the defendant's appeal from the decision of Liverpool Justices on July 22, 1985, to impose fines on the defendant together with disqualification for holding a driver's licence for three years in respect of various road traffic offences.

MR JUSTICE NOLAN said that to allow any impression to be gained that the means of an offender, or the lack of them, had determined the issue of the imposition of a custodial or non-custodial penalty, would be intolerable.

Jail sentence on fine appeal wrong

Regina v Liverpool Crown Court, Ex parte Baird

Where a court had to consider, in sentencing an offender, whether to impose a custodial or monetary penalty, the first stage was for the court to determine the matter solely with regard to the gravity of the offence and without regard to that state to the means of the offender; once a decision had been made that a fine should be imposed, then the means of the offender became of critical importance.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Nolan) so held in December 1985, when allowing the defendant's application for *certiorari* to quash the decision of Liverpool Crown Court (Judge Davies, QC) on October 28, 1985, to impose imprisonment on the defendant for four months with an alternative, in the event of non-payment of that sum of one day's imprisonment. The crown court's order was made on

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
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear
and Bob Williams

BBC 1

- 6.00 **Celebrity AM.**
6.50 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Mike Smith. Weather at 6.55, 7.05, 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55; regional news, weather and travel at 8.57, 9.27, 9.57 and 10.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sports at 7.20 and 8.20; a review of the morning newspapers at 8.37. Plus, reunions, ideas for presents, and Denise Robertson and Sally Hawkins with advice on coping with Christmas.
- 9.20 **Celebrity.** 10.30 **Play School.** 10.50 **Celebrity.**
- 12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Conradi. Includes news headlines with subtitles, 12.55 Regional news. The weather details come from John Kelly.
- 1.00 **Pebble Mill** at One with Magnus Magnusson, Josephine Buchanan and Paul Cole. Three young women take the plunge for Christmas and adopt a new image - with help from Annie Humphries of Vidal Sassoon, and make-up artist Stephen Glass. Jane Lomas, fashion editor of *Elle*, *Woman*, *Elle*, and *Elle* looks to the experts. Plus Howard Franklin with the last in his series on flower arranging. 1.45 *My Bean* (r).
- 2.00 **Birth Right.** Peter Huntington concludes his series on maternity services (r). 2.25 **Claire Rayner's Casebook.** Two couples talk about childlessness and what they have done about the situation (r). 2.50 **Celebrity.** 3.52 **Regional news.**
- 3.55 **Postman Pat** (r). 4.05 **Jonny Briggs.** The penultimate episode in the series about a young boy living in the north of England.
- 4.30 **Spy Trap.** Teams from Trowbridge and Bebbington try to discover the identity of a traitor. Presented by Bill Haver and Bill Haver. 4.45 **So You Want to Be a Top Performer** by Lani Harper and Gary Wilmore.
- 5.00 **John Craven's Newsround.** 5.10 **Grange Hill.** Episode 17 of the 18-part serial and cheating is discovered in the farm and on the sports field (r) (CoFex).
- 5.35 **Masterclass.** The fourth quarter final of the general knowledge quiz for teams. News with Sue Lawley and Andrew Harvey. Weather.
- 6.30 **London Plus.**
- 7.00 **Telly Addicts.** The seemingly invincible Pain family are challenged by the Liddells from Australia in *Anyhills*.
- 7.30 **EastEnders.** Lou, an arriving home from hospital, is none too happy with her new quarters, while Ali pays a visit to the building society to make mortgage enquiries (CoFex).
- 8.00 **Hold the Back Page!** Ken Wordworth is not a popular man when his sports editor orders that his department give up alcohol as a gesture to Ken who has entered the London Marathon. Ken faces more aggravation from Frank, but Ruby, the barmaid at the Infield, is angry about her loss of takings (CoFex).
- 8.50 **Points of View.** Barry Took with another selection of viewers' letters to the BBC.
- 9.00 **News with Julia Somerville and John Humphrys.** Weather.
- 9.25 **Cagney and Lacey.** The two New York policemen are investigating a lottery fraud (CoFex).
- 10.15 **Film 85.** Presented by Barry Norman. The programme includes a review of the western, *Silverado*, starring John Cusack, and an interview with Michael Caine who talks about his new film, *Year of the Dragon*.
- 10.45 **Year of the Dragon.** The last programme in the series, which Dr Alan Maynard-Davis examines National Health treatment of mental illness (r).
- 11.10 **The Rock Gospel Show.** The guests include Larry Norman (r).
- 11.45 **Weather.**

TV-am

- 6.15 **Good Morning Britain.** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.17, 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; exercises at 6.20; sport at 6.35 and 7.34; regional report at 7.15; part two of the story of Christmas at 7.20; cartoon at 7.24; pop video at 7.28; *Woman's Choice* at 7.37; 7.50 review of 8.30; poetry competition final at 8.04; festive fashions from Marie Helvie at 8.12.

ITV/LONDON

- 8.25 **Thames News headlines** followed by *Football Focus* (r) 8.55 *Wild World of Animals.* The two faces of the black bear 10.15 *A Christmas Story.* Cartoon (r) 10.40 *Little House in the Big Woods.* A lonely woman with a child turns to Charles Ingalls for comfort (r) 11.25 *A Good Year.* Three young children learn to love their suburban neighbour 11.50 *Cartoon.*
- 12.00 **Flicka: Christopher Lillicrap** with the *Twelve Days of Christmas* 12.10 *Rainbow.* Learning with puppets (r) 12.30 *The Saturday Show.*
- 1.00 **News at One** 1.20 **Thames News** with Robin Houston
- 1.30 **Genus.** The first compilation of the series set in the design workshop of a Covent Garden fashion company. *Daytime.* Sarah Kennedy chairs a discussion on a topical matter, 3.00 *That's My Dog* Canine competition in which owners and their pets are tested. 3.25 *Thames News* headlines 3.50 *The Young Doctors.*
- 4.00 **Flicka: A repeat of the** programme shown at noon 4.10 *Thames The Tank Engine and Friends* (r) 4.20 *Dangertown.* Animated adventures of a secret service robot (r)
- 4.45 **Splash Victoria.** Stud meets wildlife expert Graham Dangertown and watches eagle chicks make their debut. Michael Groh visits a musical family in the Falls Road area; and Nino Finto talks to animal behaviour expert Roger Mugford.
- 5.15 **Blockbusters.**
- 5.45 **News.**
- 6.30 **Thames News.**
- 6.55 **Crossroads.** Adam is selected for a top management course abroad.
- 7.00 **Emmerdale Farm.** Alan Turner looks forward to his Christmas but Terence has his own plans.
- 7.30 **Nannie.** This time, Fast moving musical quiz presented by Lionel Blair.
- 8.00 **Des O'Connor Tonight.** This week the entertainer's guests are Eric Sykes, The Dave Brubeck Quartet, Barbara Dickson, Bill Taylor and Jim Davidson.
- 8.30 **Heart of the High Country.** The final episode of the drama serial and Carol, after an underground explosion tears the heart out of the population of the mining town she has made her home, decides to return to the high country where she lived 20 years before, in one last bid to discover happiness. Starring Valerie Hobson.
- 10.00 **News.** Ken and weather followed by *Thames News* headlines.
- 10.30 **God Knows Where and Port Talbot.** Sir Anthony Quayle presents a film tribute to touring theatre which flourished between the wars. Among those featured were two remnant companies of landless, dig and the hardy old of it all are Roy Castle, Charlie Chester, Derek Jacoby, Michael Denison and Duke Glazer. Dore Hare and Tommy Trinder (see Choice).
- 11.30 **Streets of San Francisco.** Detective Mike Stone coaches a basketball team in his spare time. One of the squad witnesses a murder. Should he tell his coach the facts? Starring Karl Malden.
- 12.25 **Night Thoughts.**

Sir Anthony Quayle on TV, 10.30pm

BBC 2

- 9.00 **Celebrity.**
- 9.25 **News Summary** with subtitles. Weather.
- 9.30 **Disturbed Tymes.** Lincoln Castle is the scene of a Roundheads and Cavaliers encounter, re-enacted by the English Civil War Society (First shown on BBC North).
- 9.50 **Tucker's Luck.** The final episode and Tucker, buffeted by the dele of office and the grant of a new car, is left with a grudge to give to the car thieves.
- 9.55 **Living By Design.** A portrait of Paul Matthews and Tom Leachy who graduated from Leeds Polytechnic two years ago determined to carve a niche in the world of modern furniture design. How have they fared? (First shown on BBC North).
- 10.00 **Whistle Test** presented by Mark Ellis and David Hepworth. In the studio are David or Alvin and The Alarm. Andy Kershaw reports from Boston on a performance by Barrence Whitfield, and a Genesis rehearsal; Godley and Crème explain how they chose the video competition winner and the highlights of their 1981 performance by John Cougar-Melencamp.
- 10.15 **Call My Bluff.** Arthur Marshall is joined by Maureen Lipman and Roger Royle; Frank Muller by Virginia McKenna and Miles Kingston. Robert Robinson is in the chair.
- 10.30 **Food and Drink Christmas Special.** presented by Chris Kelly, Michael Barry and Jill Gordon. Indian food writer Madhur Jaffrey makes a spicy exotic turkey stuffing; Auberon Waugh chooses an affordable red wine for Christmas dinner; and Rabbi Lionel Blue details of seasonal Jewish specialities.
- 10.45 **Ties of Blood: The Military Wing.** by Graham Reid. The final play of the series is set in the military wing of a Northern Ireland hospital where two nurses' friendship is affected by the arrival of a third, and the war is filled with a diverse selection of characters, some shattering, some very ill. One day the war's end of life is shattered by an incident. Starring Mark Drevy, Gwen Taylor and James McKenna (see Choice).
- 10.50 **Armed: The Apollo Story.** The second and final part of the series on the famous Harlem theatre which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Tonight's programme begins where last week's finished - the be-bop era - and brings the story to the present time. With contributions from Little Richard, who recalls the early days of rock and roll, Gladys Knight and the Pips, Solomon Burke, Mary Wilson, and James Brown. The theatre was closed in 1978 but, thanks to cable television, reopened last year with Hall and Oates topping the first show.
- 11.00 **Newnight.** The latest national and international news including extended coverage of one of the main stories of the day. With John Tusa, Peter Sars, Donald McCormick and Olivia L'Esly.
- 11.45 **Weather.**

CHANNEL 4

- 2.30 **Film: Down Memory Lane** (1949) A compilation of Mack Sennett films including *W. C. Fields in The Dentist* and *Blng Crosby in Blue of the Night*.
- 3.45 **Years Ahead.** Magazine programme for the older viewer, presented by Robert Douglas.
- 4.30 **Countdown.** The fourth quarter final the number four seed, Robert Cotton, against Ian Bebbington, seeded number five. Richard Whitely is the questionmaster.
- 5.00 **Bewitched.** Tabatha's toys come to life just as Samantha and Darrin are expecting guests for dinner.
- 5.30 **Make It Pay.** The final programme of the series in which Stephen Adkins examines hobbies that can be profitable. Wooden toy-making and paper flowers are today's subjects. Plus Maxine Mawhinney talking to John Michael Pearson, consumer studies tutor at the Royal College of Art, London, about the basic requirements needed to start a crafts business (Oracle).
- 6.00 **Shakespeare Lives: Hamlet.** National Theatre associate director Michael Bogdanov presents a production of *Hamlet* with the help of actors including Clive Arndell, Bill Wallis, Suzanne Berish and Michael Bryant. Bogdanov's question to the lively audience is: Is the play about a young man with an Oedipus complex, or is it about a power struggle? (r)
- 7.00 **Channel Four News.**
- 7.50 **Comment.** With his view on the matter of topical importance is art historian Maurice Howard. Weather.
- 8.00 **Brookside.** The turkeys arrive at the Close but they are not what the residents expected. Meanwhile, Karen agrees to meet Guy once again.
- 8.30 **What's His Worth.** Consumer affairs programme presented by Peter Janor. Tonight, John Thornborough meets a South London wheeler-dealer in the *Arthur Daley* mould; David Stafford discovers the best whisky buys; and Bill Brockton discovers how much Christmas cards make from Christmas cards.
- 9.00 **Film: Goldie and the Boxer** (1979) starring O. J. Simpson and Melissa Mathison. A made-for-television drama set in 1945 about a newly-demobilized soldier who is attacked by two braves, robbed, and thrown off the train on which he was travelling. When he wakes up he is being tended by the 10-year old daughter of a boxer training for a heavyweight title bout. The soldier becomes a sparring partner for the boxer but when he dies of a heart attack it is decided that the sparring partner take his place in the bout. With Phil Silvers, Vincent Gardenia and Ann-Margaret. Directed by David Miller.
- 10.50 **Individual Voices.** The late Aleds Komer, playing guitar and piano with bassist Colin Hodgkinson. Recorded at the 1981 Camden Jazz Festival (r) Ends at 11.45.

Radio 4

- On long wave. Also VHF.
- 5.55 **Shipping Forecast.** 6.00 **News Briefing.** Weather.
- 6.10 **Farming Today.**
- 6.25 **Prayer for the Day.**
- 6.30 **Today.** 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 **News Summary.** 8.45 **Business News.** 8.55, 9.55 **News.** 10.00 **Today's News.** 7.30 **Year Letters.** 7.25, 8.25 **Sport.** 7.45 **Thought for the Day.** 8.55 **Yesterday.** 9.00 **News.** 9.05 **Today's Call.** 01-580 4411 - Myths, Legends and Romance. Phone-in to Jennifer Westwood and Dr Ray Barron, chaired by Jill Burdette (first shown on 8.00am).
- 10.00 **News From Our Own Times.** 10.15 **The World Tonight.** 10.30 **Morning Story.** A 'Securite at Christmas' by David Hare. 10.45 **Daily Service** with Eileen Calder. 11.00 **News.** 11.05 **Thirty-Minute Theatre.** 'The Grudge' by Bryan Oliver. 11.30 **To Share a Life.** The story of a kidney transplant, performed in Belfast's City Hospital. 12.00 **You and Yours.** Consumer advice with Patsy Colewell. 12.27 **Michael Pearson** celebrates his 50th birthday with the help of the BBC Sound Archives. 12.55 **Weather.** Travel. 1.00 **The World at One.** News. 1.05 **The Archers** (r). 1.55 **Shipping Forecast.** 2.00 **Women's Hour.** 3.00 **News.** The Afternoon Play 'Country Afternoon' by Alison Brackenbury. 4.00 **News.** 4.05 **The Food Programme.** Derek Cooper looks at two campaigns. One for food safety and the other for the reduction of unprocessed milk. 4.30 **Kaleidoscope** with Paul Constantine. 4.45 **News.** 5.00 **PM: News magazine.** 5.50 **Shipping Forecast.** 5.55 **Weather.** 6.00 **The Six O'Clock News.** Financial Review. 6.30 **Top of the Form.** General knowledge contest for schools. 7.00 **News.** 7.05 **The Archers.** 7.20 **Broadcast of Fresh Air.** Frank Dunlop's favourite walk in the centre of Edinburgh.

Radio 5

- 7.30 **Carols from Liverpool Part 1.** Richard Baker introduces the annual concert of carols and Christmas music, direct from Pharoah's Hall, Liverpool. The Travellers Fynes Mayson. Benjamin Vane's *Year of the Travellers* from England throughout Europe and Turkey in the spring of 1591.
- 8.40 **Carols from Liverpool Part 2.** Prescribed Piece. Novelist Howard Jacobson vents his spleen on another more or less observing subject. Arts magazine presented by Paul Allen.
- 10.15 **A Book at Bedtime.** A Christmas Carol. A short story abridged in 8 parts (21.10.85).
- 10.30 **The World Tonight.** 11.15 **The Financial World Tonight.** 11.30 **Today in Parliament.** 12.00-12.15 **am News.** Weather. 12.33 **Shipping Forecast.** VHF (available in England and Wales only) as above except: 11.00-11.15 **am News.** 11.15-11.30 **am News.** 11.30-11.45 **am News.** 11.45-12.00 **am News.** 12.00-12.15 **am News.** 12.15-12.30 **am News.** 12.30-12.45 **am News.** 12.45-1.00 **am News.** 1.00-1.15 **am News.** 1.15-1.30 **am News.** 1.30-1.45 **am News.** 1.45-2.00 **am News.** 2.00-2.15 **am News.** 2.15-2.30 **am News.** 2.30-2.45 **am News.** 2.45-3.00 **am News.** 3.00-3.15 **am News.** 3.15-3.30 **am News.** 3.30-3.45 **am News.** 3.45-4.00 **am News.** 4.00-4.15 **am News.** 4.15-4.30 **am News.** 4.30-4.45 **am News.** 4.45-5.00 **am News.** 5.00-5.15 **am News.** 5.15-5.30 **am News.** 5.30-5.45 **am News.** 5.45-6.00 **am News.** 6.00-6.15 **am News.** 6.15-6.30 **am News.** 6.30-6.45 **am News.** 6.45-7.00 **am News.** 7.00-7.15 **am News.** 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Pretoria anger at ANC killings

From Michael Hornsby Messina

South Africa warned Zimbabwe yesterday that it must take action against black nationalist guerrillas operating from its territory after a landmine explosion on Sunday in the far north of Transvaal killed six whites - two women and four children - and injured five.

It was one of the biggest losses of white civilian life in a quarter century of sporadic attacks by black insurgents of the outlawed African National Congress.

After visiting the scene of the explosion, two miles from the Zimbabwean border and about 25 miles west of Messina, General Magnus Malan, the South African Defence Minister, said: "South Africa will not tolerate such actions, and must warn you that this could lead to a similar situation to that of Swaziland in Angola."

South Africa has repeatedly invaded Angola in pursuit of guerrillas of the South West African People's Organisation who operate from bases in southern Angola in their campaign to win independence for South African-occupied Namibia.

General Malan appeared to imply that a similar fate could befall Zimbabwe if it allowed insurgents of the ANC to use its territory.

In a statement from its headquarters in Zambia, the ANC last night claimed responsibility for the landmine explosion but denied its guerrillas had entered South Africa from Zimbabwe.

With other journalists, I was taken yesterday by the South African Army to the scene of Sunday's blast. We saw the charred and twisted remains of the light open-backed truck in which two families had been travelling when the mine went off.

The fathers of both families survived, but one lost his wife, his eight-year-old daughter and two-year-old son, and the other his mother-in-law and his daughter, aged nine, and son, aged three. A one-year-old boy was among the injured.

Jumper takes fireman rescuer with him



Fireman Walter McGinn grabbing hold of William Dolan as he jumps from the expressway railing, and (right) is pulled over into a 30ft drop.

Five firemen in Boston, Massachusetts, were injured when a man who kept rescuers at bay for 1½ hours on Sunday jumped 30 feet from an elevated highway, taking one of the rescuers with him (AP reports).

The jumper, William Dolan, was unhurt, but fireman Walter McGinn, aged 35, who went over the railing of the South-east Expressway as he tried to grab Mr Dolan, and four of the nine firemen who were holding a safety net below which collapsed, were treated in local hospitals.

Police took Mr Dolan into protective custody and held him for observation. A police spokesman said that Mr Dolan faced charges of disorderly conduct and interfering with a fireman in the performance of his duty.

Details of the injuries suffered by Mr McGinn, who was treated at Massachusetts General Hospital, were not released.

MP's fury over leaked report

From Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

A parliamentary investigation was launched last night to discover who leaked a controversial draft report on nuclear waste which appeared yesterday in *The Times*.

Sir Hugh Rossi, Conservative chairman of the Commons Environment Select committee, which produced the document, is understood to be referring the matter to the Speaker of the Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill.

Last night the 11 members of the select committee met to discuss the report, but deferred consideration pending the investigation into the source of the leak. Sir Hugh asked each of the MPs if they were responsible.

Each of the six Conservatives, three Labour and one

Liberal MP on the committee will receive a formal letter asking if they or their research assistants leaked the draft report to *The Times*. A similar letter will be sent to the committee's clerks and specialist advisers.

The draft report, which follows an eleven month investigation into nuclear waste, states that Britain's nuclear industry is "virtually light years" behind those in other countries in dealing with the safe disposal of the waste it creates.

The report also says UK disposal sites seen by MPs were "primitive in the extreme". Sir Hugh, MP for Hornsey and Wood Green, was said yesterday to be furious over the leak. At one point he was threatening to resign as committee chairman or considering

not to proceed with publication over the report.

Its contents were raised in the Commons during questions to energy ministers. Mr Alistair Goodlad, a junior minister at the Department of Energy, told MPs: "I cannot comment on reports in the newspapers."

But he said he was "delighted" to confirm that the safety record of the nuclear industry was excellent. Mrs Ann Clwyd, Labour MP for Cynon Valley, said it was in the interests of everybody in Britain not to develop government power further until the nation that the nuclear industry could dispose of its waste safely. Mr Goodlad replied: "I cannot comment in advance of the select committee report which I understand is expected in the New Year."

French charge Soviet 'sleeper' with theft

Boulogne (AFP) - Mr Vladimir Leontev, the Soviet emigre who arrived in France on Thursday after three weeks "asleep" in a British hospital after a road accident, was yesterday charged with theft.

Legal sources said he refused to say where he obtained 278,500 francs (£25,215) in 500-franc notes found on him after a moped accident north of London. He said he acquired it in England, but would not say how or where.

The prosecutor had not ruled out the possibility he might have been used to carry the money to England. English medical authorities said Mr Leontev, who has spent time in psychiatric hospitals, apparently pretended to be asleep.

Letter from New York

Redskins put feather in the police cap

FIST strikes again. The daring cops of the Fugitive Investigative Strike Team were hugging themselves yesterday after pulling off their most ingenious sting to date. It worked like a dream and the bad guys never had a chance. Final score: cops 100, robbers 0.

The heart of the con was an invitation to a brunch. The FIST men set up a fictitious cable television company called Flagship International Sports Television. How they smiled at the grim humour of its acronym.

Then, on their headed notepaper, they sent out invitations to hundreds of men in the Washington area who had arrest warrants against them and were on the run.

They made them an offer they could barely refuse - a hearty brunch and two free tickets each for the football game between the Washington Redskins and the Cincinnati Bengals. And - almost baiting the hook - the promise of a grand draw with a one-week luxury trip to the Superbowl in New Orleans, the very pinnacle of American football.

So the wanted men arrived at the Washington Convention Centre in rare good spirits, dressed up in coats and scarves, with the Redskins colours, looking forward to the brunch and the game.

Inside the convention centre there were notices saying "Let's party!" - and all sorts of jolly and welcoming people. Indeed there were more than 160 of them. There were ushers who smilingly showed the guests where to get their food, coffee and tickets. There were amiable caterers and smart, dinner-jacketed executives from Flagship International Sports Television who offered a beaming welcome.

There was a man dressed up as a Redskin, in a feathered war bonnet, and to add to the party atmosphere there was also a man clucking around foolishly in a chicken costume.

The fans were merrily singing the football club song, "Hail to the Redskins", when

the master of ceremonies, dressed in a white top hat and tails, announced in his jolly way that they were all under arrest.

Jaws fell like forge hammers. You could have knocked over the fugitives with a warrant. The ushers, the caterers and the executives moved in. The smiles had vanished from their faces.

The Redskins pounced and the chicken whipped off his head to reveal the no-nonsense features of a United States marshal. Just to show that all the fun had drained away, the chicken had a gun under his wing.

"Freeze," said the men from FIST, and the wanted men froze. The brunch was as ashes in their mouths.

Buts came and off to jail went the rueful fugitives. One man grumbled that FIST was guilty of misleading advertising.

Flagship International Sports Television quickly wound up its short and successful business operation. The fugitives were wanted for murder, burglary, robbery, rape, forgery, drug dealing and fraud. The belongings they had handed over to the police included two guns and drugs.

Such stings are an efficient way of rounding up men on the run. Last year FIST caught more than 3,000 fugitives in a large-scale swoop. Some of the criminals were lured out of hiding with promises of tickets to a Boy George concert. Others were attracted to a fake parcel office by letters telling them that valuable packages awaited collection.

FIST men say their stings are an inexpensive and relatively safe way of catching crooks, often safer than going to their homes.

It can be expensive trying to track down thousands of criminals who frequently change their addresses. But letters sent to the last known address are often forwarded. The hook is in the mail.

Trevor Fishlock

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

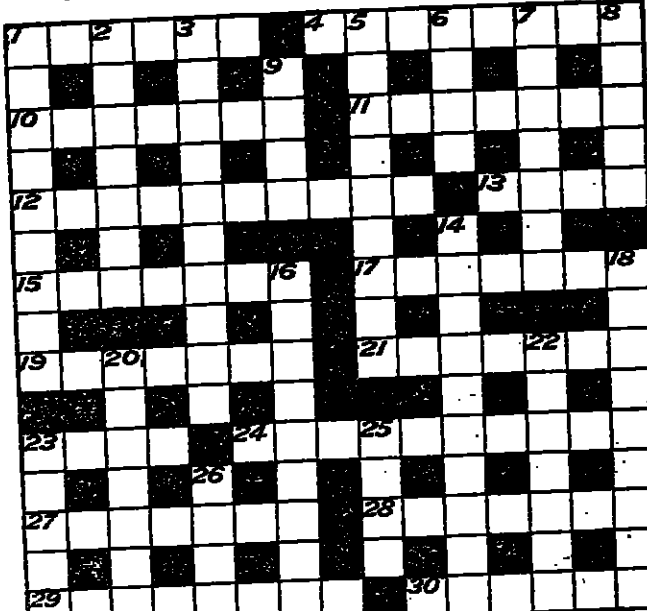
Royal Engagements
The Prince of Wales opens the Newmarket Business Centre for Advanced Technology, Desford, Leicestershire, 11.30; then opens Paper Company new newspaper plant at Shorton, Croydon, 12.45.

Princess Anne attends a children's matinee performance of the pantomime *Cinderella* at the Palladium Theatre, Argyll Street, W1 in aid of the Variety Club of Great Britain, the Army Benevolent Fund (Children's Section) and the Save the Children Fund, 1.30; then as President of the Save the Children Fund, attends a seminar on "Prospects for Africa" and receives the Institute of Public Relations President's Medal at the Royal Institution of Chartered

Surveyors, Great George Street, SW1, 5.55.
Princess Michael of Kent attends as Guest of Honour of the National Playing Fields Association, the premiere of the pantomime *Babe in the Wood* at the Palace Theatre, Manchester, 2.30.

Last chance to see
The Macdonald Art Collection - recent purchases and old favourites - Macdonald Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr: Mon to Sat 11 to 5 (ends tomorrow).
Sussex Landscapes and portraits by Frances Francis, The Civic Centre Museum and Art Gallery, Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells: Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30 (ends today).
The Arthurian Legend, John Rylands University Library of Manchester, Deansgate, Manchester: Mon to Fri 10 to 5 (ends today).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,922



ACROSS

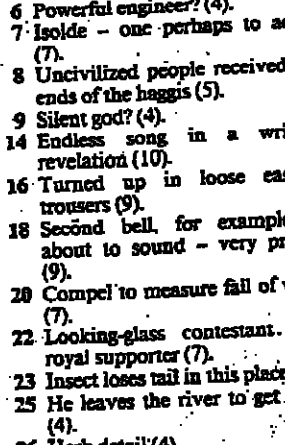
- Volunteers retreat in fast but not obvious form (6).
- Looking displeased, take boat to fish (8).
- Materially failed? (7).
- Dismissed, gets job in distant branch (7).
- Managed to get head of the detectives in a bad state (10).
- Don't strike a girl (4).
- One who got back at Jove, half in fury (7).
- Strike for reporter's claim (7).
- The Spanish agent in disguise is grateful (7).
- This tree's said to be a short one (7).
- Resigned from the side (4).
- Rider brings letters to the Italian literary celebrity (10).
- Upper class invested in collector's items, being eager to learn (7).
- Assume to be up-river in ship by Egyptian capital (7).
- Don't want first and was spotted (8).
- Cheesemaker's note returned (6).

DOWN

- All but one of these letters threaten lawsuit (5,4).
- Rattigan, the old dramatist (7).
- "Through the" - the last of the curtains (Bertinotti) (10).

The Times Jumbo Crossword with an additional set of concise clues will appear in the *Saturday* section this Saturday

Solution of Puzzle No 16,921



Music
BBC Studio One concert, Edinburgh Studios, Queen St, Edinburgh, 8.15.
Organ recital by Bryon Jones and Alan Davis, Harworth Social Welfare Hall, Whitehouse Rd, Bircoates, Doncaster, 7.30.

Christmas Music
Carols by the Doncaster and District Choral Society, Bawtry Parish Church, Bawtry, Doncaster, 7.30.
Christmas musical evening by the 7th Doncaster Boys Brigade Band, Carr House Wesley Methodist Church, Doncaster, 7.30.

The Pilgrims' School
Cathedral Service, Winchester Cathedral, 4.00pm.

The papers

Labour is glorying in a good old-fashioned plot over the Westland helicopter affair, and why not? The Star asks it says: "There is a classic Cabinet split, with Trade Secretary Leon Brittan and Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine barely on speaking terms. And Mrs Thatcher is not best pleased. But the inter-party shenanigans in Westminster, and the final decision on whether Westland is taken over by an American or a European consortium should not be allowed to let anyone duck out of the real question. It is this: Why has a prestige British company failed to produce the right goods and the right price to attract overseas buyers?"

The Sun points out that the pay in London of electricians working on TV averages £20,000 a year and the Sun asks it says: "Yesterday they staged a 24-hour strike. Why? Because they are objecting to the end of a cesspoo arrangement with ITV by which they receive eight hours wages for one hour worked after 1 a.m. Their union promises, however, that at this stage they do not intend to spoil the nation's viewing over Christmas. Big Deal! The bosses should never have made such a ludicrous deal. The electricians should be told that unless they stop being greedy they can say out so long the ivy will be growing in the TV masts."

Cooking safety

A warning has been issued by the Institution of Environmental Health Officers about the need for precautions in preparing and storing poultry over the holiday period. The institution points out: "Food poisoning is a major cause of illness but it will multiply to varying degrees at any temperature between 10°C (50°F) to 62°C (143°F). It is 10°C (50°F) to 62°C (143°F) that is the danger zone. Lack of proper temperature control is the most widespread cause of food poisoning. Their tips include not putting stuffing inside the cavity of the bird and serving the bird as soon as possible after cooking. Also left-overs should be stored in a cool place 15°C (59°F) for not more than one and a half hours and then put in a refrigerator."

TV top ten

- National top ten television programmes in the week ending December 16, 1985.
- Eastenders (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
 - Eastenders (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
 - Just a Minute (Wed, 12.15pm)
 - Portugal, 10.10pm
 - Don't Wake Up, 12.30am
 - Only Fools and Horses, 11.30pm
 - Julia Brown, 11.30pm
 - Wogan (Fri, 11.15pm)
 - Blackly Star, 11.15pm
 - Play Your Cards Right, LW, 12.30am

- ITV**
1 From Russia With Love, (TV, 7.25pm)
2 Coronation Street (Wed, Granada, 10.10pm)
3 Coronation Street (Wed, Granada, 10.10pm)
4 Minder, Thames, 12.10pm
5 Crossroads (Thu/Sat, 12.40pm)
6 The Dick Van Dyke Show, 12.50pm
7 Full House, Thames, 12.50pm
8 The Dick Van Dyke Show, 12.50pm
9 Play Your Cards Right, LW, 12.30am
10 Crossroads (Thu, Central, 12.30pm)

- BBC 2**
1 Family Ties, 7.25pm
2 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
3 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
4 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
5 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
6 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
7 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
8 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
9 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
10 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)

- BBC 1**
1 Family Ties, 7.25pm
2 The National (Thu/Sat, 8.20pm)
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Roads

London and South-east: Traffic lights at Vauxhall Cross, London, out of order for next seven days, delays. A23: Roadworks with lane closures in Hooley Lane at junction with Star Lane, delays. A1(M): Contraflow between Slough and Maidenhead, but lane closures continue until end of next week.

Midlands: M5: Lane closures both ways between junctions 4 (A38 Bromsgrove) and 5 (A38 Droitwich); only one lane northbound and no northbound access at junction 5, expect long delays. 50mph speed limit. M5: Contraflow between Slough and Maidenhead, but lane closures continue until end of next week.

Wales and West: M5: Two lanes closed on S-bound carriageway between junctions 9 (Tewkesbury) and 10 (Cheltenham). Glos. A37: Temporary lights on Dorchester to Cheltenham. M5: Lane closures on S-bound carriageway between junctions 4 and 5 (Hampton/Midbury). M5: Lane closures on S-bound carriageway between junctions 4 and 5 (Hampton/Midbury). M5: Lane closures on S-bound carriageway between junctions 4 and 5 (Hampton/Midbury).

Scotland: M74: Northbound link to M8 outside lane closed, at junction 2, Glasgow. M74: S-bound carriageway closed between junctions 4 and 3 (Hamilton/Midbury). M74: S-bound carriageway closed between junctions 4 and 3 (Hamilton/Midbury). M74: S-bound carriageway closed between junctions 4 and 3 (Hamilton/Midbury).

Information supplied by A.A.

Anniversaries
Birkenhead - Domenico Cuccia, composer, Aversa, Italy 1749.
Ladysmith - Beethoven, baptized, Bonn 1770. Sir Humphrey Davy, chemist, inventor of the miner's safety lamp, Penzance 1778. John Greenleaf Whittier, writer and abolitionist, Havertown, Massachusetts 1807. W. E. MacKenzie King, prime minister of Canada, 1921-26, 1926 and 1935-45, Berlin (Kitchener), Ontario, 1874.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Debates on aid for Africa and on Members' interests.
Lords (2.30): Shops Bill, committee, second day.

The pound
Sterling fell to a new low of 1.58 against the dollar today, as investors reacted to the news that the Bank of England had raised its base rate to 10%.

Portfolio
Portfolio - how to play
Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio
Add them together to determine your weekly Portfolio total
If your total matches the published weekly total, you have won a prize of £1,000. The prize money will be paid to you by cheque.

Lighting-up time
London 4.22pm to 11.30pm
Birmingham 4.22pm to 11.30pm
Manchester 4.22pm to 11.30pm
Cardiff 4.22pm to 11.30pm
Glasgow 4.22pm to 11.30pm

Weather forecast
Frontal troughs will cross most districts from W. Scotland, will be mostly cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle. Clearer weather will spread to SW later.

Weather forecast

Frontal troughs will cross most districts from W. Scotland, will be mostly cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle. Clearer weather will spread to SW later.

Gam to midnight
London, SE, central S, central N, NE England, East Angles, E. Midlands, Scotland, Ireland: Mostly cloudy, outbreaks of rain spreading from W; wind SW moderate, increasing; max temp 12C (54F).

Wales, Lake District, Lake of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Mostly cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle clearing from W later; wind SW becoming W moderate or fresh; max temp 12C (54F) but cooler later.

SE Asia: S. North Sea: Wind W, backing SW light or moderate, increasing; rain or drizzle becoming moderate. S. North Sea: Wind W, backing SW light or moderate, increasing; rain or drizzle becoming moderate. S. North Sea: Wind W, backing SW light or moderate, increasing; rain or drizzle becoming moderate.

Lighting-up time
London 4.22pm to 11.30pm
Birmingham 4.22pm to 11.30pm
Manchester 4.22pm to 11.30pm
Cardiff 4.22pm to 11.30pm
Glasgow 4.22pm to 11.30pm

Yesterday
Temperature in central London, 12.1C (54F), 11.1C (52F), 10.1C (50F), 9.1C (48F), 8.1C (46F), 7.1C (45F), 6.1C (43F), 5.1C (41F), 4.1C (39F), 3.1C (37F), 2.1C (35F), 1.1C (33F), 0.1C (31F), -0.1C (29F), -1.1C (27F), -2.1C (25F), -3.1C (23F), -4.1C (21F), -5.1C (19F), -6.1C (17F), -7.1C (15F), -8.1C (13F), -9.1C (11F), -10.1C (9F), -11.1C (7F), -12.1C (5F), -13.1C (3F), -14.1C (1F), -15.1C (-1F), -16.1C (-3F), -17.1C (-5F), -18.1C (-7F), -19.1C (-9F), -20.1C (-11F), -21.1C (-13F), -22.1C (-15F), -23.1C (-17F), -24.1C (-19F), -25.1C (-21F), -26.1C (-23F), -27.1C (-25F), -28.1C (-27F), -29.1C (-29F), -30.1C (-31F), -31.1C (-33F), -32.1C (-35F), -33.1C (-37F), -34.1C (-39F), -35.1C (-41F), -36.1C (-43F), -37.1C (-45F), -38.1C (-47F), -39.1C (-49F), -40.1C (-51F), -41.1C (-53F), -42.1C (-55F), -43.1C (-57F), -44.1C (-59F), -45.1C (-61F), -46.1C (-63F), -47.1C (-65F), -48.1C (-67F), -49.1C (-69F), -50.1C (-71F), -51.1C (-73F), -52.1C (-75F), -53.1C (-77F), -54.1C (-79F), -55.1C (-81F), -56.1C (-83F), -57.1C (-85F), -58.1C (-87F), -59.1C (-89F), -60.1C (-91F), -61.1C (-93F), -62.1C (-95F), -63.1C (-97F), -64.1C (-99F), -65.1C (-101F), -66.1C (-103F), -67.1C (-105F), -68.1C (-107F), -69.1C (-109F), -70.1C (-111F), -71.1C (-113F), -72.1C (-115F), -73.1C (-117F), -74.1C (-119F), -75.1C (-121F), -76.1C (-123F), -77.1C (-125F), -78.1C (-127F), -79.1C (-129F), -80.1C (-131F), -81.1C (-133F), -82.1C (-135F), -83.1C (-137F), -84.1C (-139F), -85.1C (-141F), -86.1C (-143F), -87.1C (-145F), -88.1C (-147F), -89.1C (-149F), -90.1C (-151F), -91.1C (-153F), -92.1C (-155F), -93.1C (-157F), -94.1C (-159F), -95.1C (-161F), -96.1C (-163F), -97.1C (-165F), -98.1C (-167F), -99.1C (-169F), -100.1C (-171F), -101.1C (-173F), -102.1C (-175F), -103.1C (-177F), -104.1C (-179F), -105.1C (-181F), -106.1C (-183F), -107.1C (-185F), -108.1C (-187F), -109.1C (-189F), -110.1C (-191F), -111.1C (-193F), -112.1C (-195F), -113.1C (-197F), -114.1C (-199F), -115.1C (-201F), -116.1C (-203F), -117.1C (-205F), -118.1C (-207F), -119.1C (-209F), -120.1C (-211F), -121.1C (-213F), -122.1C (-215F), -123.1C (-217F), -124.1C (-219F), -125.1C (-221F), -126.1C (-223F), -127.1C (-225F), -128.1C (-227F), -129.1C (-229F), -130.1C (-231F), -131.1C (-233F), -132.1C (-235F), -133.1C (-237F), -134.1C (-239F), -135.1C (-241F), -136.1C (-243F), -137.1C (-245F), -138.1C (-247F),